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AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

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The Maine Farmer.

N. T. TRUE, S. L. BOARDMAN, } Editors,

Our Home, Our Country, and our Brother Man.

The Corn Crop.

According to the Report of the Department of Agriculture for November, the corn crop of Maine was set down at about one and a half million of bushels, while in Massachusetts it was two and a third millions of bushels. We confessed to some degree of mortification at such a result, that a State not larger than some counties in Maine, should raise nearly a million bushels more of corn. We do not think it should be so. In this matter of raising the cereals we are inclined to the proverb, buy all and spend all. But there is a strange fallacy in this matter. No better method has been devised for bringing our gravelly soils into a productive condition for other crops than by planting corn. A good crop of corn and then one of grain is sure to follow. Somehow when we visit a farmer's home and find a bin well filled with corn, we know almost to a certainty that he is an independent and thriving farmer. He has corn to fatten his hogs, some meal to give his cows in winter if they need it, something for the hens, and something out of which to make a loaf of rye and Indian bread. We look upon it as a sort of regulator in the whole domestic economy. If there is a surplus in summer it can always sell at a good price, or it may be kept over to meet a year of scarcity.

Corn can, and is cultivated still by our best farmers in portions of the State adapted to its growth. Somehow a farm without a corn-field does not look completed. This may arise from the force of early habit. The flattering accounts given some years or other crops is a great temptation to many farmers to try something else. No crop is so sure from year to year as corn. We were recently informed by an old gentleman that he had not failed of at least a fair crop of corn but once for forty-seven years. This cannot be said of any other crop.

It is a great drain upon the farmer's income when he is compelled to buy his food from abroad. Every farmer feels this, and should be constantly on the watch to guard against such a result. We trust that more attention will be paid to the cultivation of this important crop to a certain extent than for several years past.

Annual Meeting of the State Agricultural Society.

The members of the Maine State Agricultural Society met in the Agricultural Room at the State House on Wednesday of last week, Jan. 22d, at 10 o'clock A. M., and were called to order by the President, Seward Dill, Esq.

The record of the last annual meeting was read by the Secretary.

On motion of Mr. WASSON a committee consisting of one member from each county in the State to report a list of officers of the Society for the ensuing year. They reported the following who were afterwards unanimously elected:

President—Hon. Seth Scammon of Scarboro'.
Secretary—S. L. Boardman of Augusta.
Treasurer—Wm. S. Badger of Augusta.
Trustees—Geo. W. Ricker of Bath, Seward Dill of Phillips.

On motion of Mr. ANDERSON a vote of thanks to the retiring President was unanimously adopted.

Messrs. Wasson, Jaquith and Norton were appointed a committee to receive, sort and count the votes for member of the Board of Agriculture. Calvin Chamberlain, Esq., of Foxcroft, having a majority of all the votes thrown was declared elected for a term of three years.

The Treasurer, W. S. Badger, presented his annual report which was accepted.

The matter of holding a State Fair the approaching autumn was discussed at some length, after which, Mr. WASSON presented the following:

Resolved, That it is the declared wish of the members of this Society that we hold a State Fair during the coming season, provided the Trustees on an examination of the exigencies in the case so decide.

Mr. ANDERSON presented the following:

Resolved, That the State Agricultural Society have observed with a lively interest the movement of the citizens of Winthrop in regard to the erection of a local monument in memory of the late Dr. EZEKIEL HOLMES.

A meeting of the Trustees to take into consideration the project of holding a State Show the coming autumn was arranged for Monday, 27th inst.

On motion of Mr. FRENCH the Board adjourned.

Fish.

In spite of all that has been written on the propagation of fish, few persons are aware how systematically the business is carried on, or its great value. It is reported that in 1863 there were carried to London market alone nearly four million pounds of salmon worth a million of dollars. These fish are furnished from the rivers of Ireland, England and Scotland. The fishing rental of the river Tay for the year 1864 was seventy-five thousand dollars in gold. Scientific breeding and raising of fish have increased very much since that time. The propagation of the oyster has been carried to a great extent in this country. Every village and city in the country is supplied with them. It must require many millions of oysters a year to do it. In France the oyster culture is carried on to an extent absolutely astonishing. Thus the sea, the rivers, lakes and ponds can be made to furnish a vast amount of wholesome food to meet the wants of man. We hope and believe the time is not far distant when our rivers and lakes will be stocked with fish. They are often now only useless wastes. Massachusetts and New Hampshire are initiating experiments on this subject, and if found to succeed, it will be well for us in Maine to see what can be done towards stocking our waters.

Care of Farrow Cows.

Nothing pays so well in winter as good care of farrow cows. Their milk is rich and full of nourishment, and can be easily increased in quantity. If a man has but little to do at home in winter but attend to his chores, he can give his cows a bucket full of warm water every day with a little meal and he will find his return in a fuller flow of milk. A warm stable is also necessary. It has a better effect on the future of the animal as a milker. A cow that is pinched for food in winter will not be likely to be a good milker in summer.

Sales of Stock.

Among the recent sales from the Short Horn herd of Hon. Warren Percival are the following: Yearling bull Leopard, 5873, cow Cecil and her calf May Rose, to L. R. Bigelow of Smithfield; bull calf Duke of Maine, 6666, to Almon Brown, Esq., of East Wilton; bull calf Royal Duke, 7232, to Joseph Miller of Waldoboro'; and bull calf Royal Prince, 7237, to Luke Hilton of Skowhegan. The first reference is to the seventh, and the remaining references to the eighth volume of the American Herd Book.

☞ The *Bee Journal*, published monthly at Washington, D. C.—the only paper of its kind in this country—is entitled to the support of all bee-keepers.

Maine Board of Agriculture.

Reported for the Maine Farmer.

Proceedings of Maine Board of Agriculture.

MONDAY, Jan. 20th.

Board met at 10 o'clock. After the usual formal business of opening

Mr. PRINCE of Androscoggin, presented a report on Root Culture, which had its first reading, was accepted and assigned to Tuesday for its second reading.

The resolves of Mr. Wasson concerning agricultural discussions were called up, and referred to a committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Brown, L. Chamberlain, Hobbs, Ayer and Norton.

On motion of Mr. CARPENTER, the report of the retiring member from Franklin county, Mr. FRENCH, on the "Application of Manures," was taken from the table. Referring to a statement in the report that a great spoonful of plaster had produced as much effect upon corn as a teaspoonful of bone phosphate, he thought it calculated to convey a wrong impression. No doubt upon some soils plaster was valuable, but if the report showed that plaster which could be obtained for from six to eight dollars a ton gave as much yield as bone phosphate costing eighty dollars per ton, he thought it would lead many astray who were not acquainted with the operation of plaster upon different soils, and he also thought it did injustice to the phosphate, which was undoubtedly a valuable crop upon all soils. He believed there was no better way to manure land to be seeded down, than to use green manure, having it well incorporated with the soil at the time of seeding. Upon a field of two acres, which before produced but about 500 pounds of hay, plowed in the fall, manured with green manure—a somewhat scanty manuring, however, as manure was scarce—and planted with potatoes. It was then planted to corn, with a dressing of old manure, and afterwards sown to wheat and seeded down. It produced five tons of hay and has held its own to this day, and for years after it received its green manuring—some twenty-four years ago—its effects could be readily seen, the line where the green manure was left off and none applied, being directly noticeable for many years after.

Mr. HOLMES gave an account of an experiment with Coe's Superphosphate by the side of plaster, under corn, and could see no value from the phosphate. Manuring in the hill with old manure and a little plaster produced the best crop, green manure and plaster the next best, and Coe's phosphate the poorest yield in the entire field. The experiment was tried in 1865.

Mr. WILDER of Washington, had tried phosphate on different crops, but received no benefit from it. Parties from Massachusetts engaged in the manufacture of super-phosphate had been in his section and purchased large quantities of fish pomace to employ in the manufacture of phosphate, and the bones and pomace of fish could be seen in the phosphate obtained from there. Applied to corn and beans it did no good whatever. Fish pomace applied to the soil and well worked in, produced heavy yields of potatoes and those free from rot. Plaster had been applied, but in his section its results were such as did not pay for its use. At Eastport the Messrs. Treat are engaged quite extensively in the manufacture of herring pomace or guano and he understood some hundreds of tons were manufactured annually. The oil is first extracted from the fish, after which the pomace is dried and ground. It then sells for about $30 per ton. In his section the application of raw fish pomace was as effectual in its results as that used dry.

Mr. AYER spoke of the value of muck and loam as an absorbent of liquid manure From soil dug from a well and applied to soil of a different character, he had seen as good results for one year as from any coat of manure he had ever applied. The soil taken from the well was at a depth of some fifteen feet, consisted of blue clay and gravel, and was applied to a light yellow loam.

Mr. L. CHAMBERLAIN thought bricks and snow-balls would be as beneficial to the soil as manure in a green state. He believed no manure should be used until dissolved. He gave an account of the Chinese manner of converting their manures into liquids from soaking manure in tanks which was drawn off and applied to the land in that form, and he said our farm manures would doubtless give double the benefit if applied in a liquid form. Plaster had been of no benefit upon his soil, a gravelly loam with a heavy clay subsoil. One of the most valuable materials for absorbing liquid manure was street or road dust, but in a wet season, such as the last, it could not be obtained.

Mr. WASSON made some exhaustive and lengthy remarks upon the general subject of manures and their application, taking up in course barn manure, porgy chum, plaster, phosphate, &c. In his section porgy chum had risen in value from 25 cents per load to $50 per ton, and agents from Connecticut had purchased large quantities and offered an increase in price in order to secure the same for another year. But when applied to the land it leaves a want supplied, which plaster has made up to some extent, but even plaster has been discarded. So of Coe's and Bradley's superphosphate, they had been tried but had not met the wants of farmers. The Cumberland Bone Superphosphate had been tried for some years and it had given the most satisfactory results. Muck had been used in different ways, and upon all crops, but it had been found of no value whatever, either as an absorbent or as a direct application to the soil. Loam had given better results. In the interior muck was no doubt valuable, but upon the coast it was almost worthless. Our farmers must pay more attention to the saving of their liquid manures and construct their barns so it can be done, as by its present waste they without doubt save but about two-sevenths of the whole of the liquid portion. The solid portions of manure will take care of themselves. In Japan, Switzerland and other old countries where liquid manure was largely applied, and every particle of fertilizing matter saved, the land, although cultivated for ages and ages was actually improving in value and increasing in its capacity to produce crops.

In some subsequent remarks Mr. Wasson said he regarded the combination of some considerable portion of fish guano in super-phosphate as no evidence of the impurity or little value of the article, as fish guano furnished large quantities of nitrogen or ammonia. If we can unite porgy chum with phosphate and increase the value of the former, while at the same time we do not diminish the value of the latter, he could not see why it was not a good method of proceeding. The presence of fish pomace in super-phosphate was no evidence of its impurity or adulteration.

Mr. PUTNAM of Aroostook said, it is only quite recently—since our farmers began to plow their farms—that they have made much account of applying manures in any form. He believed top-dressing was the best mode of manuring, and near the village where land was valuable he had found good results from top-dressing his pastures, as such an application produced four times as much feed as where none was made.

After some further discussion by Messrs. Carpenter, Holmes and others, the report was assigned to Tuesday for final disposition.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock P. M.

MONDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Board met at 2 o'clock. Mr. PRINCE, Vice President, in the chair.

The Secretary informed the Board that the Senate had granted the use of its hall to the Board for their evening meetings during its present session.

Mr. WASSON presented an ad-interim report, entitled "The Farmer's Road to Success," which was once read, accepted, and

On motion of Mr. CARPENTER, assigned to Tuesday, A. M., for its second reading.

On motion of Mr. PRINCE, the report on Mixed Husbandry, presented by the member from Kennebec, Mr. CARPENTER, was read a second time in detail.

Mr. PRINCE of Androscoggin, said:

I cannot agree with the sentiments as expressed in the report, but on the contrary, think that for any one to be successful in any branch of business, he should make that branch a specialty. A farmer should, in the first place, consult his own tastes and see what particular branch he has a desire to enter upon, and then see if his farm is suited to that particular branch of industry, and if not, he should exchange and get one suitable for his purpose. This done, his whole energy should be expended in this one direction, and this would naturally increase his taste for this particular branch, and he would inevitably be more successful than if his force were spent in different directions. A large army may be easily conquered when but a battalion is used at a time, when at the same time as a whole, it would be almost invincible. We cannot think that any one can come to a different conclusion, if he will but for a moment look about him and see the success of those in the different parts of the State that have pursued this course. For instance, look at the different stock growers in the State, and you can hardly call one to mind but what has been eminently successful. Also look at the wool growers of Franklin and Somerset counties; the hop growers of Oxford, the fruit culturists of Kennebec and Androscoggin, the dairymen in the different parts of the State, and you find them almost invariably more successful than their neighbors who are plodding along with the idea that they cannot farm it to advantage without about an equal per centage of all the crops raised in the State. In traveling over the different sections of our State, I find nine-tenths of the farms in about the same ratio of the different kinds of crops and stock without the least reference to their adaptability to the location or soil, and I believe this is the direct result of the belief that we must pursue a system of mixed husbandry as recommended in the report, rather than fixing our minds upon some particular branch for which we have a taste, and pursuing this with the energy that will insure success.

Mr. AYER thought the farmer who pursued a mixed course of husbandry, generally as successful as those who devoted their time to the production of a single crop or class of stock. Many of the best farmers in the State were the raisers of the best stock, as well as the best crops of grass and grain.

Mr. HOLMES favored the views of the report as to pursuing a mixed course of hunbandry. In his section the farmers raised great quantities of hops, still they raised corn as well as grain. In the adjoining town of Livermore, great attention is paid to the production of dairy products, but the farmers by no means neglect other crops. He believed that the farmer who could raise the most of the crops and articles needed by a family, the most independent.

Mr. BROWN of Lincoln, said he coincided with the views of Mr. Holmes, but it might be a question how far mixed husbandry should be practiced. He thought it should be limited to a few principal crops, and those best adapted to the soil, location and other circumstances of each farmer.

At this point the Board went into

INFORMAL SESSION,

and Mr. STACKPOLE of Penobscot, was invited to the chair.

Mr. PRINCE spoke further at length in support of his views as given above.

Mr. POOR of Andover, member of the House of Representatives, made some instructive remarks. He said it should be the object of every farmer to have some fixed aim in farming, and having from experience found out what his farm is best adapted to, persue that branch with the utmost of his ability. For his own choice he would choose a grass farm, for if he had a grass farm, one that would produce stock, he could get all else that was necessary. Speaking of the culture of wheat, he said that the midge first made its appearance in 1835, and by 1837, it had become quite extensively introduced, and proved very destructive. In late years by sowing early, say the last of April or first of May, he has succeeded in raising good crops. He prefers to prepare his land for wheat in the fall.

Hon. Mr. PIERCE of the Senate, said that taking all things into consideration in this State, as a case of necessity, he believed that the mixed course of husbandry would be found the better system. Upon many farms a great variety of soils, from wet to dry, from light to heavy, were found, and the farmer would necessarily be obliged to grow different crops upon these different soils. For himself he preferred to raise his own crops, and the different kinds of stock needed upon the farm, and he believed all farmers had better try to raise the greater part of all the articles wanted in a family.

Hon. WARREN PERCIVAL of Vassalboro', said he would define mixed husbandry to be the raising a little of everything grown upon our farms, and the system was one he believed in. In most all farms in the State one can obtain a variety of soil; every farmer should look over his farm and see what it is best adapted for and carry out his operations accordingly. As to the breeding of stock, he would breed from pure blood, whether it was neat stock, horses, swine or poultry, that the farmer wished to raise. As to the particular breed to raise every farmer should decide upon the one he regarded best. As to crops, he certainly believed in raising all kinds. If the farmer should depend wholly upon the grass crop, and it should be cut off by drouth, where would be his means of wintering his stock of cattle? But if, on the other hand he had some wheat and oats, corn and potatoes, turnips and other roots, he could feed them the straw and cornstalks, the grain and the roots, and in that way get his stock through the winter and keep the machine running. Again, if the farmer has different crops some will be pretty sure to succeed, even if others do fail, but this would not be the case if but one crop was depended upon. He doubted if a farmer could be successful without keeping all kinds of farm stock; for himself he kept them all, and thought they were all needed for consuming the different kinds of produce raised and keeping the farm supplied with fertilizers. Farm stock must ever be the main reliance for the means of fertilizing the land, and foreign (concentrated) fertilizers should only be used as a last resort.

Hon. JONAS GREENE of the Senate, said that with the climate and soil of Maine, mixed husbandry was the true system of farming. In support of this assertion, he made some statements from his own experience as a farmer, which were listened to with much attention by those present. It was a remark of a shrewd financial gentleman, that it "was not safe to put all one's eggs in one basket," and he thought farmers should not depend wholly upon one crop or branch of farming, for if they should, and the crop should fail, all would be gone. If in growing many crops, one should fail, the others might succeed, and thus the farmer would not find himself with absolutely nothing. In detailing some of his farm experiences, he said that in 1866, from one acre of sowing, he raised eighteen bushels of heavy, handsome wheat, but in 1867, there was a failure all through his section on account of poor seed He also spoke of the importance of setting out forest and fruit trees about one's dwelling, and thought nothing had a greater tendency to so much raise the value of real estate and increase the pleasure of living as this matter of planting trees, both fruit and ornamental, and urged its attention upon the members of the Board.

Hon. DENNIS MOORE of Anson, in answer to a call from the chair, made some pertinent remarks favoring the growing of several kinds of crops, and the raising of several kinds of stock, rather than confining one's attention to a specialty.

Mr. CARPENTER made some further remarks, explaining some statements in his report, after which

On motion of PRINCE, the subject was tabled until 10 o'clock, A. M. on Tuesday.

Mr. BROWN from the Committee on Rules and Orders, made a final report, which was adopted.

On motion of Mr. PRINCE, the Board adjourned.

TUESDAY, Jan. 21st.

Board met at 10 o'clock A. M., and was called to order by the Vice President.

Journal of preceding day read and approved.

Mr. WASSON introduced the following:

Resolved, That in the opinion of the members of this Board, the culture of the cranberry as a staple product, should be recommended.

The following preamble and resolution were also introduced by Mr. WASSON:

Whereas, The potato occupies a very prominent position in the list of the staple products of Maine, and *whereas*, the same variety is often known in different sections of the State under a new name, and *whereas*, many new kinds are being propagated from the seed-ball, therefore

Resolved, That we advise and recommend to the members of the next Board, to hold a potato exhibition at the Agricultural Room, on the third Thursday of January, A. D. 1869, exhibiting thereat the choicest kinds grown in their several localities.

Mr. AYER of Waldo presented a paper upon the subject, "How shall we increase the fertility of our Farms?" which was once read, accepted and assigned to Wednesday at 10 o'clock for further consideration.

Mr. WASSON read a lengthy paper on "The Ideal Farmer," which was accepted, and

On motion of Mr. CARPENTER, assigned to Wednesday for its second reading.

Mr. NORTON of Franklin, presented a report on the "Culture of Apple Orchards," which was once read and disposed of in the usual manner.

Mn motion of Mr. CARPENTER, the report of the former member from Franklin was taken from the table, when he offered the following as an amendment:

Resolved, That the Board does not endorse the peculiar views, theories or assertions advanced in reports of committees and papers prepared by individuals, but it does become responsible for the correctness of the principles and recommendations contained in the resolves which may be appended to such reports and papers.

Resolved, That so much of the conclusions in the report of the ex-member from Franklin, as relates to the application of plaster, be considered as having only a local value.

This report was further discussed by Messrs. L. Chamberlain, Dike, Putnam, Norton, Prince and Stackpole, mainly with reference to the time of the application of manures, but with the elicitation of little new or valuable, as the members were about equally divided as to the time and manner of application. It afterwards passed to its third reading and was adopted.

The report of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN of the Maine State Society, containing experiments on Alsike clover, was read a second time, and assigned to Friday at 2 o'clock P. M., to be discussed in connection with the subject of Bee Culture.

The report of Mr. HOLMES on the relative profits of raising cattle and sheep, was taken from the table, discussed somewhat, and re-committed for amendment.

The following additional topics were presented by the Business Committee:

6. The Vegetable Garden.
7. Cultivation of Apple Orchards.
8. The Farmer's Road to Success.
9. By what means can cultivators be enabled and induced to bestow higher culture upon themselves and those in their care?

An invitation having been accepted from the Hon. WARREN PERCIVAL, for the Board in a body to visit his farm in Vassalboro', Messrs. Prince, Carpenter and Ayer were appointed a committee to make arrangements for the visit and report to the Board.

In order to attend the deliberations of the Legislative Committee upon Agriculture, the Board decided to have no afternoon session, but meet in connection with that committee.

Adjourned.

TUESDAY EVENING.

The Board met in the Senate chamber at 7½ o'clock, when a lecture was delivered by Calvin Chamberlain, Esq., on "Man a Destructive Power," treating of the destruction of our forests, its influence upon our climate and agricultural operations, and the importance of planting groves and belts of forest trees.

On motion of Mr. BROWN, a vote of thanks was passed the author for his able and instructive lecture, and a copy requested for publication.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 22d, 1868.

Board met agreeably to adjournment. President in the chair. Journal of preceding day read and approved.

The Committee on Credentials reported that Hon. SETH SCAMMON, member elect from Cumberland County, was present, who accordingly took his seat.

Mr. PRINCE, from the committee appointed to make arrangements in regard to the proposed visit of the Board to the farm of Hon. Warren Percival in Vassalboro', presented a verbal report, which was accepted.

On motion of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, the Board then went into

INFORMAL SESSION,

and Mr. DIKE of Bath was called to the chair.

Mr. T. M. GLENDENING, of the firm of E. B. Bruce & Co., Portland, was then introduced to the members by Mr. PRINCE of Androscoggin, who proceeded to show them an improved method of attaching a yoke of oxen to a cart or sled; and also a new device for loading hay and grain upon a hay wagon. These were both examined with much interest by all present.

In order to give up the use of the room to the members of the State Society for the purpose of holding their annual meeting, the Board then adjourned to 2 o'clock P. M.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON—INFORMAL SESSION.

Mr. HOLMES of Oxford in the chair. Subject for discussion—"Fruit Culture."

Mr. WASSON opened the discussion by saying: "I am from the seaside, where it is supposed that either a deterioration of the soil, or climatic influences have unfitted the locality for the growth of fruit. My constituents—not less successful in other occupations than the rest of mankind—viewing the State as a whole from their stand-point, conclude that the culture of fruit with success in view is a hard fact. As year by year it has been my good fortune to witness those exhibits of your successes and drink in those facts which flow out during these discussions, I the more strongly regret that the good farmers of Hancock are not here to *see* and *hear* each for himself. We grow some good fruit, but our farmers as a whole conclude that it is not a safe pursuit. As regards the tenor of the present discussion, may I suggest that it be not of a character of sameness with those which have gone before, but that the new lessons of the closing year, whatever of progress may have been made, or whatever of error or of mistakes may have been discovered, should give tendency to our thoughts that we may profit thereby."

Mr. DIKE spoke of the advantages of underdraining, and in his section this has been necessary to any real success in fruit culture. Clean cultivation is also of great importance. With these two things he believed any one could engage in fruit culture with good prospect of success, upon most of the soil in this State. The borer had not done much damage in his section, and if the grass was kept down about the trees his operations could be more easily detected. He believed the land for an orchard needed to be tilled and manured as much as for any other crop. Little would be expected of a crop of wheat or corn if treated as our orchards are, and if land upon which they were sown was manured as little as the orchards are. Had applied a top-dressing of compost to the roots of his cherry, pear and other trees, with the best results. Mulching would keep the grass down about the trees, but where the orchard was large, plowing would answer the same purpose and be far cheaper.

Hon. S. P. BENSON of Winthrop made some interesting remarks, in which he stated that according to his belief, no crop in Maine paid so good a return for the labor bestowed upon it as the apple crop. He did not believe it advisable for our farmers to raise summer and fall varieties, on account of the difficulty of transporting them to market. No climate was more favorable to the keeping of winter varieties of the apple than that of this State. In Maine we should cultivate winter fruit, and if there is any better variety than the Roxbury Russett, cultivate that variety. It will keep longer than most any other variety. A compost of lime and soda, put about the tree and coming up to the height of a few inches, had prevented the depredations of the borer in his orchard. Had raised the past year about one hundred barrels of fruit, including Baldwins, Greenings and Roxbury Russets. Apples from Maine invariably stand higher in the Boston market, and will keep longer than from any other State.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN wished to obtain information in regard to the effect of shelter upon fruit trees, and hoped to hear from gentlemen present upon this point. In his section (Piscataquis) many varieties of apples called in the books fall varieties, such as Jewett's Red and the Hubbardstone Nonesuch, were easily kept until winter and made very good winter apples. The effect of latitude upon fruit was very marked.

Mr. GOODALE remarked that in his section the Winthrop Greening dropped from the tree before it ripened.

Hon. GUSTAVUS BENSON of Winthrop spoke of the effects of the shelter of forest trees upon fruit trees. The fruit trees were mainly stone fruits and pear trees sheltered upon the west and north by a screen of forest trees, and open upon the east and south. The trees produced most luxuriantly and uniformly.

Mr. DIKE remarked that in a visit to New Hampshire, he visited an orchard shielded from the cold north and west winds by a forest of trees, which produced bountiful crops of apples, pears and peaches.

Rev. Mr. DREW of Augusta, gave the history of the Lincoln Pippin, which was in fact one and the same thing with the Winthrop Greening, having been raised from scions of the latter variety.

Mr. NICKERSON of Readfield, originator of the Nickerson pear, said that with him there are three kinds of borers. One affects the maple tree, cutting nearly around the tree and preventing the ascent of sap. Has often found the apple tree borer from two to five feet above the ground, and would average four feet from the ground, some of which were an inch in length. Another borer forms in the fall, and is formed in a burr. This kind enters near the root of the tree and lasts for but one year. He had once taken out twenty-four borers from a single tree. Had never seen a borer in the pear stock. As to fruit, many varieties differ much in shape, especially the Winthrop Greening, Baldwin and Rhode Island Greening, and may be attributable to the stock or soil, partly both; and fruit cannot always be named or identified from the appearance. He considered the pear tree as hardy as the apple. If raised and transplanted here, they are more apt to live than the apple tree. Pear trees planted at the same time and of about the same size as the apple, will come forward as rapidly. Could raise pears which sell for eight dollars per bushel as easily as cider apples worth a shilling per bushel. His land was a deep hard soil. His pear trees are not more sheltered than the apple trees in town. Pear trees are more apt to overbear than apple trees. The apples will drop off if the trees are overbearing, but this is not so with pears. The Nickerson pear has done well in Aroostook and Penobscot counties, and was adapted to all parts of the State. Within the past four years this pear has been sent to Illinois, and has been disseminated throughout every State this side of there. In grafting, he practices what is known as saddle grafting, the most perfect, and far better than the old cleft method. Pear trees should be grafted near the root, but Baldwin apples in the limb. The former needs a strong, deep soil, and abundance of manure; apples are often injured by this heavy manuring. He suggested the application of bank or pond sand about the roots of trees to keep down the grass and keep off the borer. Nothing had succeeded better for this purpose with him.

Mr. CALVIN SPAULDING of Hallowell, an enthusiastic and veteran fruit-grower, was present with some choice fruit, and entertained the Board, as he often has done before, with the results of his experience in growing the different sorts of fruit.

Mr. PRINCE spoke of the benefits of mulching, and regarded it as one of the best methods of renovating fruit trees, young or old. Meadow hay gave a better profit fed to the apple trees (as a mulch) than if fed to stock. He thought the borer would not trouble fruit trees to so great an extent if the ground was cultivated. Mr. CARPENTER also alluded to this subject, and said brakes and meadow hay could not be put to better advantage than by using them as a mulch. It will cause a great increase in the quantity of the fruit as well as in its size and quality.

Mr. PETTENGILL of Augusta and Mr. PRINCE of Turner, spoke of the subject of shelter, and the latter gentleman stated that a farmer in Androscoggin county lost his orchard by cutting away the forest trees screening it on the north and west.

Mr. GOODALE regarded shelter as important for trees as for animals, though perhaps not exactly of the same kind. Providence has seemed to give us the fir for the purpose of shelter, and it should be used to greater extent than it is. With screens at proper distances he thought we would raise most any kind of fruit grown in New England.

The following parties exhibited specimens of fruit:

Mr. C. Chamberlain, eight; Rufus Prince, two; Francis Cary, Turner, (through Mr. Prince) two; C. C. Fuller, Freedom, (through P. W. Ayer) three; C. Spaulding, six of apples and one of pears.

[If the above report of Wednesday afternoon's discussion is regarded as unsatisfactory by those who participated in it, the reporter would only say that it is utterly impossible for him to report intelligibly, the remarks of five or six persons, who may be engaged in conversation in different parts of a room at the same time.]

WEDNESDAY EVENING—REGULAR SESSION.

Board met at 7 o'clock P. M. Mr. PRINCE in the chair.

Mr. WASSON, chairman of the Committee on Credentials made a final report, saying that the Board was full, and

On motion of Mr. CARPENTER, the committee was discharged from further duty.

On motion of Mr. WASSON, the subject relating to the culture of wheat was taken from the table and assigned to Thursday at 10 o'clock A. M. for further consideration.

On motion of Mr. WASSON the resolution relating to the culture of the cranberry, and recommending its culture as a staple product in this State, was taken up. In presenting this matter Mr. WASSON spoke of several farmers in his vicinity who have been very successful in the culture of the cranberry, and have during the past few years largely increased their culture, and also the size and value of the crop. He considered much of the land in Hancock, Washington, and many other shore counties very well adapted for this crop; indeed he knew of but few counties in the State where they would not succeed. The cherry variety with him, succeeds better than the Bell or Bugle, is much more prolific, less liable to attacks of insects, but is not quite so rich a fruit. Care and attention in setting the vines are very essential, and it is a part of the matter that should not be hastened. A desirable location for cranberry culture should be nearly level, the soil a muck with a subsoil of sand, it should be underdrained, furrowed out eighteen inches apart, with a dam for the purpose of flowing. In setting the vines fill the furrows entirely full so as to have the vines cover the ground completely. The vines will require weeding the first year, but not after. If the marsh is covered with turf and weeds, first take off the turf and then put on sand to the depth of from three to five inches. He had vines that produced in one year from being set out. Let the water on the vines the 13th of June and let it remain about four or five days. In some locations—as upon Mt. Desert—the cranberry is grown without the use or aid of water, and the crop is destroyed by the fly about once in four years; but he would not recommend a great outlay for a cranberry marsh where water could not be let upon it at the will of the cultivator. The water is a great aid to the growth of the plant, even were it not for its agency in keeping off the fly, and it is also necessary in keeping down the weeds.

Mr. CARPENTER gave some interesting statements concerning the cultivation of the cranberry in Massachusetts, as it had come under his own observation during a visit there the last season—their main reliance for success in the business being sand and water.

Mr. PUTNAM said in Aroostook county the highbush cranberry was grown to some extent, and it was their practice to keep them in the cellar during the winter in casks of water. By this means they are kept fresh and nice all winter, and are regarded as a very choice article of diet.

Subsequently on motion of Mr. STACKPOLE, the resolution was adopted.

The report of Mr. NORTON on the "Culture of Apple Orchards in Maine," was taken from the table and read a second time in detail. The writer of the report stated that he had an orchard of some three acres, containing about three hundred trees, and the net income from it was more than from the entire other part of his farm. The orchard was protected on the north and west by a forest growth.

Mr. L. CHAMBERLAIN remarked that the old apple-trees in our State are fast dying out. Some farmers continue to replace them with young trees, but these die out in a few years, and they will wonder why the trees do not live, when in fact the soil is starving to death for want of fertilizing material and there is not vitality enough in it to produce the growth of the trees. Yet notwithstanding this the majority of the farmers are so short-sighted they fail to make any effort to supply this waste of the fertility of the soil. This must be done or we must stop attempting to grow fruit.

Mr. PRINCE said that in his location the Roxbury Russett was almost a failure. The Bellflower was also hard to raise, and he rarely succeeded in getting a perfect apple of this variety. The Baldwin however, was raised to perfection, and he had rather attempt to raise five bushels of Baldwins than one of Bellflowers. He thought three or four winter varieties would be much more profitable than a larger number, and so of fall varieties. To grow from forty to fifty varieties he regarded as a mistaken course of procedure.

Mr. PUTNAM had used charcoal from an old charcoal bed to put under his shade and fruit trees when transplanting them, with most decidedly beneficial results.

On motion of Mr. PRINCE, the report was then re-committed to the writer for amendment.

Mr. HOLMES presented in an amended form, his report on the comparative profits of raising cattle and sheep. It was discussed at some length, mainly upon its technical bearing, (the question being upon its third reading and final adoption) the discussion being engaged in by Messrs. Carpenter, Moore, Wasson, Scammon, Prince and others, after which the matter was tabled, and the Board adjourned.

THURSDAY, Jan. 23.

Board met at 10 o'clock A. M. After the opening business was disposed of

The subject of wheat culture was taken from the table, discussed somewhat by Messrs. Wasson, Goodale and others and referred to the committee consisting of Messrs. Moore, Ayer and Putnam, with instructions for them to investigate the matter, and report to the Secretary in season for the same to be incorporated into his next annual report.

On motion of Mr. AYER, the report of Mr. HOLMES on the relative profits of cattle and sheep was taken up, again discussed, and recommitted for amendment.

The report of Mr. MOORE on the subject of "Sheep Husbandry in Somerset County," was read a second time in detail. [In our last week's issue this report was stated as being upon the subject of sheep husbandry in connection with the present tariff on wool, which was an error of the REPORTER.]

This report is an exhaustive, lengthy and carefully prepared paper, its reading occupying nearly one hour. After its reading a brief discussion upon some points in the report, mainly in reference to the comparative cost of keeping the coarse and fine wool breeds, and upon the comparative value of their product (wool,) Messrs. Wasson, Ayer, Carpenter and Dike taking part in the discussion, after which the matter was tabled.

Mr. WASSON introduced the following:

Ordered, That the Business Committee be directed to inquire into the expediency of praying the Legislature to extend the length of our sessions to not less than eighteen days.

On motion of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN of the Maine State Society, the Board then went into

INFORMAL SESSION

and Mr. CARPENTER of Kennebec was called to the chair.

Mr. WASSON then introduced Mr. Geo. A. White, General Agent for Maine for the Walter A. Wood Mowing Machine, (as built at the works of this Company at Hoosick Falls, N. Y.,) who exhibited a model of the machine, and spent some time in an explanation of its many points of superiority over other machines as claimed by the builder, to the Board, who in turn examined the model, as well as one of the machines now on exhibition in the rotunda of the State House, and propounded many questions in regard to its construction, points of special merit, cost and manner of working, all of which were replied to satisfactorily.

After dispatching some other routine business the Board adjourned.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

The Board having accepted an invitation to visit the farm of the well known Short Horn breeder, Hon. Warren Percival at Cross Hill, Vassalboro', this afternoon was assigned as the time for making the visit. Accordingly, in conformity to the arrangements made by the committee of the Board appointed for that purpose, consisting of Messrs. Prince, Carpenter and Ayer, the members of the Board and its officers left the Cushnoc House in this city in teams provided for the purpose, at exactly 2 o'clock P. M. In addition to the members of the Board the party consisted of JOHN F. ANDERSON, Esq., former President of the State Agricultural Society, WM. S. BADGER, Esq., Treasurer of the Society, and Mr. S. L. BOARDMAN, of the MAINE FARMER. The afternoon was very unfavorable for the visit, a severe and damp snow-storm prevailing all the time, which made the ride very unpleasant, and rendered almost impossible the proper examination of Mr. Percival's stock, it being too stormy to think of turning them into yards. After a ride of one hour Mr. Percival's place was reached and the owner extended to the company a genuine and hearty farmers' welcome. Immediately after their arrival the company proceeded to examine Mr. Percival's buildings and stock, commencing with the new stable erected the past season, and going through in succession the different departments consisting of the stable, hennery, piggery, cellar for manure, stalls for cattle, sheeppens, &c. &c., under the guidance of Mr. Percival, at the same time listening to his account of the method of his management, system of breeding, &c. &c. His herd of pure bred Short Horns now consists of forty-six animals, and he has a flock of sixty pure blood Cotswold sheep. Of swine he has some fifteen, consisting of Chesters, Suffolks, Scotch Suffolks and Prince Alberts. He has sold his stock to go into twenty-eight towns and twelve counties in the State, and many to go out of the State. About an hour and a half was spent in and about the farm buildings, after which the company repaired to the house where they were received by and introduced to Mrs. Percival, who was assiduous in her efforts and attentions for the enjoyment of the large company present. At about half-past four o'clock Mr. WASSON called the company to order, after which brief, appropriate and spicy speeches were made by Messrs. Anderson, Scammon, Dike, Carpenter, Moore, Goodale and Prince, and at 5 o'clock the party sat down to a large table loaded with the most tempting articles in the farmers' bill of fare, which as all know consists of the best the land affords. On leaving the tables, Mr. DIKE presented the following, which passed unanimously:

"*Voted*, That the thanks of the Board of Agriculture be hereby tendered to Hon. Warren Percival of Vassalboro', for his kind invitation to the members to visit his farm and examine his herd of pure bred Durham stock, for the pleasure we have enjoyed in our intercourse with him and his family, and for the very hospitable manner in which we have been received and entertained by Mr. Percival and his estimable and accomplished wife."

The Board then bade the family a hearty good night, and returned to the city, reaching there about seven o'clock P. M.

FRIDAY, Jan. 24.

Board met at 9 o'clock. President in the chair. In the absence of the Secretary Mr. MOORE of Somerset was chosen Secretary *pro tem*.

Mr. STACKPOLE of Penobscot presented a paper on the "Culture of Buckwheat," which was once read and disposed of in the usual manner.

Mr. HOLMES' report in its amended form was presented by that gentleman and laid upon the table.

The report on "Culture of Apple Orchards," presented as amended by the member from Franklin, Mr. N

The reports of Mr. CARPENTER on "Mixed Husbandry," of Mr. HOLMES on "Comparative Profit of Raising Sheep and Cattle," of Mr. AYER on "Increasing the Fertility of our Farms," and of Mr. NORTON on "Apple Orchards," were severally read the third time and adopted.

On motion of PRINCE, the paper of Mr. WASSON entitled "The Farmers' Road to Success," was read a second time in detail. Afterwards it passed to its third reading and was adopted.

The following subjects were assigned to members for ad-interim reports:

Improvements of Salt Marshes—S. SCAMMON.
Forests—C. Chamberlain.
The Vegetable Garden—S. Holmes.
Shelter *vs.* Waste—S. Wasson.
Injury resulting from the use of undeveloped males in Breeding—L. Chamberlain.
Road Making—J. V. Putnam.
Adjourned.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Board met at 3 o'clock.

The report of Mr. PRINCE on the subject of Root Crops was taken from the table.

Mr. WILDER of Washington said that in his vicinity turnips were raised to a considerable extent and fed to neat stock and sheep. He thought if they were allowed to remain in the ground until after the severe frosts it sweetened the turnips so they might be fed to milch cows without injury to the milk. One of his neighbor's fed his sheep with turnips one winter, and lost all his lambs, supposing it was caused by the turnips.

Mr. WASSON said that he fed turnips from the first of December to the first of May, and was satisfied it resulted in no injury to the lambs.

Mr. PUTNAM of Aroostook said it was his practice to feed turnips to neat stock, and he believed them excellent feed for beef. He often fattened several beef cattle each year on hay and turnips, and regarded them excellent for that purpose. He soaked his turnip seed in blubber oil twenty-four hours previous to sowing, afterwards rolling the seed in ashes. By this course he was never troubled with the maggot, and believed it a sure preventive. He raised several hundred bushels of turnips annually.

The subject of the potato disease was then taken up and discussed at some length. [The remarks of some of the speakers will be given in full hereafter.]

Mr. L. CHAMBERLAIN, from the Committee on Pay Roll, presented a report which was read and re-committed for amendment.

The report of Mr. MOORE on Sheep Husbandry in Somerset county was called up, and after some discussion adopted.

Mr. J. S. GRANT of Sidney, exhibited to the members of the Board, one of Palmer's patent adjustable hoes, which can be adjusted to suit any stature of person, and for different purposes, as for instance, hilling, shuffling weeds, digging potatoes, &c. He also presented an improved corn and bean planter, combined, a useful implement of his own invention, and measures have been taken to secure a patent upon the same.

Mr. W. B. ROBBINS of Hope, showed a model of Safford's patent swinging stancheon, a contrivance well and favorably known to our readers, and which has received the endorsement of our best farmers. Many members of the Board testified to its value by giving their orders for the article.

Adjourned to Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

MONDAY, Jan. 27.

Board met at the hour to which adjournment was made. President in the chair. The Secretary read the proceedings of Saturday, which were approved.

The following resolution presented by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN of the Maine State Society, was taken from the table.

Resolved, That the President and Secretary of this Board be directed to ask of the Legislature an amendment to section 14 of chapter 137 of Acts of 1862, so as to authorize the Secretary of this Board to draw from the Treasury five per cent. of the bounty of the State paid to agricultural societies, to be expended under the direction of this Board in providing agricultural lectures throughout the State.

Mr. WASSON regarded the matter as one of the most important the Board would be called upon to consider during the present session, and he believed the measure needed to keep up and enlarge the interest in agricultural societies and agricultural exhibitions. He believed if the course proposed by the resolution—that of inaugurating discussional lectures in the different sections of the State—were carried into effect, it would increase the numbers in attendance at our fairs, increase the interest of the farmers in their occupation, and be of vast benefit to the agriculture of the State. The experiment has been tried in his county and found a success in his section, and if a success in his section, he believed it would be so in other sections of the State.

The resolution was then adopted.

The report of Mr. STACKPOLE on the "Culture of Buckwheat," was read a second time in detail.

Mr. PUTNAM gave the result of his experience in the culture of buckwheat in Aroostook county, where it is regarded as an important and profitable crop. It is sown from the 10th to the 15th of June, and yields at the rate of about twenty-five bushels per acre. The grain is regarded as valuable for fattening stock, as well as for human consumption. The hulls separated from the flour in grinding at the mill, are used as a bedding, and the straw is sometimes employed as a mulch about fruit trees, but is rather liable to harbor mice. The rough variety, or India wheat, is the variety most sown in the county. The smooth variety is more liable to blight than the rough, although it produces a better crop.

Mr. NORTON stated that some years ago he had a piece of corn killed by the frost, the land being very badly infested with witch grass. After the corn was killed he plowed and harrowed the ground and sowed the land to buckwheat, and it completely eradicated the witch grass.

Mr. HOLMES believed if ruta bagas were sown on land infested with witch grass, two years in succession the turnips being well taken care of, it would completely destroy the witch grass. He had proved it in his own case, and could speak from personal experience in the matter.

Mr. WASSON had found buckwheat an excellent crop to plow under as a green manuring crop, it having given heavy crops of grass for many years after the application was made.

After some further remarks by different members, the report was tabled.

Mr. GOODALE introduced the following:

Whereas, The development of the manufacturing facilities possessed by this State would greatly promote the interest of agriculture, and

Whereas, the *production of human food*, whether by culture of the land or the water, is an object of prime importance to all, therefore

Resolved, That this Board communicate to the Legislature its conviction of the expediency of continuing without interruption, to satisfactory completion, the labors entered upon during the past year by the Hydrographic survey, and the Commission on Fisheries.

Mr. GOODALE made some explanatory remarks in reference to the resolutions, saying he believed it belonged to the Board to express some opinion upon the matters of the resolution, and he felt the Board should indicate its views upon the same. Two so important interests, the one looking to the development of our manufacturing resources, the other upon a subject of as much importance, the re-stocking of our rivers and ponds with useful fish, demand the attention of every one interested in the prosperity of the State, and he hoped some expression of the Board upon them would be given.

Mr. WILDER spoke of the subject of fish in the waters of the eastern part of the State, and said that within the past two or three years, the salmon and herring in the eastern waters have largely increased, owing to the construction of fishways over the dams in the rivers. It is true, manufacturing corporations were in many places opposed to the building of fishways, but he believed they could be constructed without interfering with the interests of manufacturers.

Mr. SCAMMON considered the subject in the resolution one of most vital importance to the State, and he hoped they would receive a unanimous passage. He spoke of our unsurpassed water power, superior to any other Eastern or Middle State, and the necessity of its greater improvement; and regarded the subject of restocking the rivers and ponds of our State with fish, in order that they might contribute to the production of human food, as a matter of great importance.

After some brief remarks by other members, the resolution was tabled, and the Board adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Board met at 2 o'clock. Mr. NORTON of Franklin in the chair.

On motion of Mr. WASSON,

Ordered, That the Secretary of this Board be directed to prepare and present to the Legislature, an order or resolution asking that body to direct the Committee on Agriculture to inquire into the expediency of granting an appropriation to enable the Maine State Agricultural Society to hold a State Fair during the coming season.

The resolution of Mr. GOODALE recommending a continuation of the Hydrographic Survey and the Commission on Fisheries was taken from the table.

Able remarks favoring the passage of the resolution were made by Messrs. Scammon, Wasson, Carpenter, Wilder, and others. [The remarks this afternoon, upon this resolution took very much the same course as in the forenoon, and were of a general character, having reference to the capabilities of our State for manufacturing operations, and its unsurpassed facilities for the propagation of fish, their great importance to our people, especially to the agricultural interest of the State, the former in creating a home market and the latter in contributing to the food supplies of the population. Among the remarks of a practical nature Mr. WILDER of Washington, said that in his county the practice was extending among farmers, of feeding herring pomace to sheep. He had practiced it for eight or nine years and had found it beneficial. He kept his sheep on straw and herring pomace, and considered the latter worth as much pound for pound, as corn. He fed about half a pound per day to each sheep. His sheep had come out in the spring in better condition when fed on straw and fish pomace than when fed on the best English hay.]

The resolve, on motion of Mr. CARPENTER of Kennebec, was unanimously adopted.

The report of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN on Alsike clover, of Mr. DIKE on Bee Culture, of Mr. PRINCE on Root Crops, of Mr. WASSON on "The Ideal Farmer," and of Mr. STACKPOLE on Culture of Buckwheat were severally taken from the table, read a third time and adopted.

The meeting of the Trustees of the State Agricultural Society then went into session, and the Board adjourned.

TUESDAY, Jan. 28th.

Board met at 9 o'clock. President in the chair. Journal of Monday read by the Secretary and approved.

The unfinished business remaining upon the Secretary's desk was disposed of.

The list of topics and their assignments to members for ad-interim reports was then read by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, chairman of the Business Committee.

The Secretary was requested to furnish members of the Board with copies of the Rules and Orders as amended, with the list of assignments to members.

The President having announced that no business was before the Board the usual complimentary vote of thanks to the messenger was offered by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN of the Maine State Society, to the reporter by Mr. PCAMMON, to the Secretary by Mr. CARPENTER, and to the Vice President by Mr. L. CHAMBERLAIN. In response to the same from Mr. BROWN (the votes being all taken by rising) to the President, that officer said:

Gentlemen—The labors of this session are closed. Our work, whatever may be the character of its finish, is completed. At the opening, we greet new faces. At its close we part with old and familiair ones. In obedience to the "Organic Act," one-third of our members must retire. Permit me to express my wish, and I doubt not that of the Board, that that retirement may not be of mind as well as body, but that whether present or absent we may have their *written* thoughts.

On a review of our doings may it serve to assure us, that it evinces a progress of thoughts and ideas, that good seed has been scattered which ere long shall take root in a fruitful soil. And now Fellow Members, wishing you a safe and speedy return to the loved ones at home, I await a motion to dissolve this organization.

On motion of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN the Board then adjourned *without day*.

NOTES—The thanks of the members are due to Hon. ISAAC HOBBS of Knox county, for patterns of Manley's Patent Double Swinging Stancheon, and for rights to use the same.

The name of J. R. NORTON, member of the Board from Franklin county, was wrongly inserted in our last as J. N. Norton. Correspondents will please bear this in mind.

In our last paper, in the report of the discussion on Saturday afternoon, 18th ult., Mr. WILDER was made to say the "water wheel was taken out six or eight years ago." It should have been eight or ten years ago.

In remarks of Mr. GOODALE, Thursday evening, 16th ult., for lands "flooded over," read "awarded over."

The Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Saturday, Feb. 1, 1868.

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COLLECTORS' NOTICE.

Mr. V. DARLING will call upon subscribers in Hancock County during the month of January.

Mr. S. I. SMALL, agent for the Maine Farmer, will canvas West Somerset during the month of January.

Mr. S. N. TABER is now on a visit to our subscribers in Oxford County.

Our Market Reports.

We this week inaugurate the arrangement previously announced, by which we are enabled to furnish by telegraph the latest and most reliable reports of the Brighton and Cambridge Cattle Markets, together with such other local and general commercial and financial intelligence as we trust will be of interest to our readers. We now go to press on Thursday morning of each week, and under this arrangement our subscribers will receive the market reports several hours in advance of any other paper now published or circulated in Maine.

Reciprocity.

The new Dominion of Canada has the power of rendering certain articles free of duty between the United States and Canada, on Proclamation by the Governor in Council, whenever satisfactory arrangements shall be entered into with the former Government for the importation of similar goods free of duty. Among the important articles are grain, flour and breadstuffs of all kinds, animals, fresh, smoked, and salted meats, seeds, green and dried fruits, fish, poultry, butter, cheese, lard, tallow, timber and lumber of all kinds, fish oil and gypsum.

Now the State of Maine is especially interested in this matter of reciprocity. If a farmer wants to buy a horse he frequently goes to Canada for that purpose, but he must pay a high tax for the privilege. Formerly large quantities of flour came down the Grand Trunk Railroad and supplied the people of Maine at a cheap rate. Now it is entirely prohibited by the tariff. There are certain kinds of lumber, especially pine and ship timber, to be had in Canada at a cheaper rate than can be obtained elsewhere. Then there are seasons when other articles are scarce in Maine, and of poor quality. If Nova Scotia can furnish Maine with a better quality of potatoes than Maine has done the last year, we should like to see them.

We want in turn the privilege of supplying the New Dominion with something in return of our surplus productions when needed, our products of mechanical industry. They want them, but cannot now have them only on a most limited scale. Maine is half surrounded by a foreign power. She is now situated much like a man who has a farm far away from everybody else. He labors under the disadvantage of not receiving any friendly assistance that neighbors might render. This thing needs to be remedied, or Maine will suffer in her ship building and manufacturing interests, and as the result in her agricultural prosperity. No national jealousy should enter into this question. When mutual benefit can be rendered, as we firmly believe can be done between the two countries, it is wisdom to take advantage of everything adapted to promote the prosperity of both. Ours is to be a manufacturing State. This will also more than anything else develop its agricultural interests, but if the facilities for procuring the raw material, or for secure a sale, are cramped, neither manufactures nor agriculture will flourish. What the farmer raises to sell will always find the best market where the people are best able to pay. No local jealousies should stand in the way of the utmost freedom possible of intercourse between Maine and the Dominion of Canada.

☞ The Central Homœpathic Medical Association of Maine held its quarterly meeting in this city on Tuesday, 21st inst. Of the fourteen members of the Association, nine were present, Dr. Payne of Bath, in the chair. Dr. Thompson of this city, read some clinical cases. Dr. Briry of Bath, presented a report on the treatment of Dysmenorrhœa. Dr. Savage of Wiscasset, gave some clinical experience. A paper was read from Dr. Clark of Portland, reporting a case of amputation at the shoulder blade, and one from Dr. F. W. Payne of Bath, on the treatment of skin diseases. Dr. Bell of Augusta, read a paper on "Expedients." The annual meeting will be held at Waterville, April 21st, at 7 o'clock P. M.

MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. We hope to see a much larger attendance at the meeting of the Maine Historical Society, which takes place at the Court House in this city, this afternoon and evening, than has generally been the case at previous meetings held in this city. Papers of an interesting historical and biographical character will be read at the meeting, to which the public generally are invited.

☞ A letter in the *Oxford Democrat*, from Andover in that county, says that three distinct shocks of earthquake were felt by most of the citizens of that place on Thursday evening, 16th inst. They were sufficient to give buildings a considerable shaking, sufficient to rattle dishes and stove covers, and startle the inhabitants in general.

☞ On the 7th inst., Mr. Wm. Cross of this city, while unloading wood at his door, stuck a stick into his eye, entirely destroying its sight and leaving a bad wound. It is a serious accident to him, as he had already nearly lost the sight of his other eye.

Editorial Correspondence.

ORLAND, Jan. 23, 1868.

DEAR FARMER:—Through the politeness of S. Waterhouse, Esq., of Ellsworth, to whom we were under very many obligations while there, we took a ride to this place—a distance of seventeen miles. Mr. W. drives one of the best horses in the county, and we certainly never saw a horse travel seventeen miles in an hour and fifty minutes with so little fuss about it. He reminded us in his actions and temper of Mr. Lang's Gen. Knox. It was very acceptable to ride at a good rate, with the thermometer at ten below, and and in the face of a fresh wind. We are glad to learn that Mr. Waterhouse has given up a successful legal practice, and contemplates buying a farm in Oxford county, where he intends to devote his attention largely to the raising of horses from the best stock. His great love for a noble horse and his fondness in taking care of one, renders him admirably well fitted for the business. He has several splendid horses now on hand. We love to record anything and everything which leads to improved cultivation.

The land between Ellsworth and Orland is generally poor. Rocky swamps, and still more rocky hills of the drift formation abound all the way. In one place there is a breaking up of the granite rocks, in greater masses and in greater profusion than can be well found elsewhere in Maine. They are angular in form, and frequently are capable of being split for architectural purposes. So abundant are they in one place that there is no room among them for trees to grow. As we reached the summit of a hill, we could see the rugged mountains of Mt. Desert about twenty miles to the east. Farther south was Bluehill mountain, in Bluehill. The sun was just setting in a clear sky, and the prospect, though a wintery one, was really fine.

There is a curious train of boulders in Orland about two miles east of the village. They consist of huge blocks of granite, which are rapidly undergoing decomposition. A large boulder of what was once a solid granite, may now almost anywhere be seen a hillock of coarse gravel. What could be the cause of this peculiar disintegration of the granite, we could not readily decide without a closer examination of the various conditions and peculiar composition of the rock.

The village of Orland is pleasantly situated on the Narranamesic river, which literally means the Smooth-fish-place. A branch of the Penobscot comes to this place, up which vessels drawing twelve feet can ascend. By means of three locks in the stream above, canal boats can ascend into Alamoosic pond and other ponds—a distance of five miles. These boats can bring down to tide water twenty cords of wood at a load, and serve an excellent purpose. There is a chain of ponds on this stream extending nearly to Bangor, and another chain extending to the east, towards Bluehill, a distance of nine miles. There are several good water privileges on this stream. There is considerable local trade in Orland, and the merchants claim that they can and do retail goods as cheap as in any city in the State.

There is a flourishing Farmers' Club here, which holds its meetings every week during the winter, when the farmers assemble and hold discussions and other exercises, besides supporting a course of lectures. These meetings have served to arouse a spirit of enquiry among farmers, which was very manifest among them. There is nothing like learning to think, to devise, or whatever one may please to call it, as well as to work. We were pleased with an examination of some fine Ayrshire and Jersey stock in the barn of Francis Buck, Esq, who is an energetic farmer, and takes a lively interest in everything that may serve to elevate the condition of animals or men. He thinks this kind of stock better adapted to the pasturage of this vicinity than any other. He showed us a cow which made eighteen ounces of butter to a quart of cream. He has a fine flock of South Down sheep, and believes in holding on to his flock even if wool is low, and wisely remarked to us, that wool will never go out of fashion. We might mention here that he has an Ayrshire bull, in which the characteristics of the Swinley stock cross, so called, which was infused into the old Ayrshire stock in England about fifty years ago, renders them the best breed of Ayrshires. In In these the head is shorter, with more breadth across the eyes, more upright and spreading horns, more hair, and that of a more mossy character, and generally of better constitutions. A notice of this variety may be found in an article on Ayrshire Cattle, by Sanford Howard, in the U. S. Agricultural Report for 1863, to which we would refer our readers who are specially interested in this matter.

It is reported that gold has been found in this town, but from the accounts received respecting it, we suspect that it was *planted* there to be found by somebody else. In the adjacent town of Penobscot and in Castine, there is a formation which has excited the attention of the citizens. A geologist not familiar with the geology of this portion of Maine, would pronounce a specimen of it as a carboniferous shell. It is thoroughly saturated with carbon, which would lead the inexperienced to expect coal would be found there. But these rocks are not in the coal formation. They are very far down in the lower silurian, if not below it. The same formation abounds in Cape Elizabeth, Woolwich, and in Franklin county. We speak of this here to deter men from running into foolish speculations in search of coal. This formation in Penobscot is very fragile. It would not surprise us if in some future time it may become valuable for some economical purpose. Whether it was formed from the remains of vegetable matter or in some other way, is not fully determined by geologists. It is properly a plumbaginous mica slate.

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL.—*Saturday, Jan.* 25, 1867. The following orders passed: Assigning and establishing a certain portion of the streets in the western district to be used exclusively as sidewalks, as per report of the Street Engineer and Street Commissioner; granting to the proprietors of Granite Hall the use of the City Council rooms on the evening of Feb. 13, 1868.

An ordinance setting off Milton E. Libby and his estate, from school district No. 12 to district No. 8; and an ordinance for the reorganization of our police system, were twice read, and referred to the Committee on Endorsed Ordinances; an ordinance fixing the salaries of city officers, received its first reading.

The petition of E. N. Clark for damages sustained by the loss of part of a building torn down by a mob, on Sand Hill, was referred to the Committee on City Buildings.

Roll of accounts No. 11, amounting in the aggregate to $884.98, and a bill of $135 for night watch, were allowed and ordered to be paid.

A new list of jurors, prepared by the Mayor, Aldermen, City Treasurer and City Clerk, was reported and accepted.

☞ We understand that the Messrs. Sprague have decided not to repair or rebuild their machine shop, recently destroyed by fire in this city, and that some of the manufacturers who were thrown out of business at that time, now contemplate locating in Hallowell. It is believed the people of that city, with commendable public spirit, will take measures to secure the benefits to be derived from the establishment of new and profitable industrial enterprises among them. It is a matter of regret that the requisite facilities can no longer be afforded them in this city.

☞ On Sunday morning last, about one o'clock, a barn on Howard street, east side of the river, owned by the Messrs. Sprague, and occupied by Freeman Barker, Esq., for storage purposes, was discovered to be on fire. The firemen rallied promptly at the alarm, and although unable to save the building or its contents, did good service in saving the contiguous buildings from injury. The Messrs. Sprague's loss was about $200; Mr. Barker's loss, $1200. No insurance. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

☞ The opening night of the Universalist Levee at Granite Hall last evening was a complete success. The hall was handsomely filled with people to witness the fairy operatta of "The Snow Flake," which is the most magnificent spectacle ever exhibited in this city. It will be repeated to-night and tomorrow night. One of Sanborn's celebrated Steam Fire Proof Safes will be awarded to the candidate selected by the audience who shall receive the highest number of votes The Safe is on exhibition in the Hall.

☞ Mr Isaac W. Reed of this city, late publisher of the Maine *Standard*, has been appointed Route Agent on the Kennebec and Portland Railroad, in place of Andrew Jeck, removed.

Editor's Table.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for February has the following contents: Does it Pay to Smoke? By James Parton. George Silverman's Explanation. Part II. By Charles Dickens. Characteristics of Genius. By Rev. F. H. Hedge. Orion—a poem. A Week in Sybaris. By Rev. E. E. Hale. The Victim. By Alfred Tennyson. Beaumont and Fletcher, Massinger and Ford. By Edwin P. Whipple. Flotsam and Jetsam. Dr. Molke's Friends. Part II. By Dr. I. I. Hayes. The Romance of certain Old Clothes. By Henry James, Jr. The Meeting. A poem, by J. G. Whittier. Four Months on the Stage. The Destructive Democracy. The Encyclopedist. By John G. Rosengarten. Reviews and Literary Notices. Ticknor & Fields, Publishers, Boston. Terms $4 per annum.

THE DIAMOND DICKENS. The tenth of the "Diamond" series of Dickens, from the press of Ticknor & Fields, comprises "Barnaby Rudge" and "Hard Times," with ten of Eytinge's admirable illustrations to the former, and six to the latter, making the usual complement of drawings to a volume of this beautiful edition. We can add nothing to what we have already said in praise of this edition of the works of a favorite author, and the public need very little urging to induce them to patronize it, judging from the eagerness with which every successive issue is sought for by all classes of readers. The cost of each volume, illustrated, is only $1.50; plain edition, $1.25. It can be procured of any bookseller, or will be sent post paid by the publishers, Messrs. Ticknor & Fields.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE for January 18, contains twenty-one prose articles of varied interest and much ability, the principal of which is Mr. Lowe's Edinburg Address on Education, with the comments of the London Examiner and Punch. An excellent number. Littell & Gay, publishers, Boston. Price 18 per week.

EVERY SATURDAY for January 25th, contains the continuation of an interesting story, by Chas. Reade and Dion Boucicault, entitled "Foul Play," from the advance sheets. The other articles of the number make excellent reading. Published by Ticknor & Fields, Boston. Price 10 cents per number.

MUTINY. The bark Ella and Anna, Capt. Randall, from Portland to Savannah, returned to the latter port on Thursday last, the crew having mutinied fifteen miles out, and attempted to seize the vessel. The officers quelled the mutiny. The captain was stabbed in the head and neck. Two of the mutineers were shot, one in the arm and the other in the leg. John Sullivan, Thomas Davenport, Wm. McCarty, mutineers, were arrested, examined and convicted.

The circumstances of the mutiny as given in the Portland *Star*, are as follows: It appears that one of the mutineers, McCarthy, secreted himself on board the vessel, for the alleged purpose of obtaining a passage to Savannah. Late in the afternoon of Wednesday he made his appearance, and in company with Sullivan and Davenport two of the crew, went aft to the galley and began an assault on Dow, the colored cook. One of them produced a knife and drove the cook out of the galley, when the latter drew a revolver and fired several times at his assailants, wounding Davenport in the arm. The Captain and mate, who were about sitting down to supper, heard the noise, and, arming themselves went on deck. Capt. Randall, as he stepped out of the cabin confronted Sullivan who was going aft, and ordered him forward. Sullivan sprang upon the captain with his knife and made several passes at him, and in the time the captain was cut on the forehead, on the cheek and in the neck, the last wound was the most severe, and was very near the jugular vein. Some of the crew now came to the assistance of the officers, and under a warm fire from the poop deck the mutineers were driven to the forecastle, where they were seized and ironed. McCarty, who was probably the ringleader, was shot in the leg, but the wound is not serious. The three desperadoes with Dow, who is detained as a witness, were committed to jail to await the sitting of the U. S. District Court in February.

DELEGATES TO THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION. On Tuesday evening 21st inst a meeting of the republican members of the Legislation was held for the purpose of selecting four delegates at large to the Republican National Convention, which will assemble in Chicago in May next. The following gentlemen were elected by a unanimous vote:

Hon. Samuel E. Spring of Portland; Hon. T. A. D. Fessenden of Auburn; Gen H. M. Plaisted of Bangor, and Col. Eugene Hale of Ellsworth.

Messrs. Isaac L. Hobson, A. C. Hewey, Eben Woodbury and Wm. M. McArthur were elected alternate delegates.

Resolutions endorsing Gen. Grant, recommending his nomination as the candidate for President, and instructing the delegates to support his nomination in the Convention were unanimously adopted.

☞ The new Universalist Church in this city is completed, with the exception of the finishing touches of the fresco work in the Chancel, to be executed by Mr. Schumacher. It was hoped that the Church would be ready for dedication during the present month, but the failure of the Organ manufacturer to complete the instrument at the time promised, has necessitated delay, much to the inconvenience and disappointment of the Society.

☞ The Masonic Hall in this city is receiving its finishing touches in fresco from the magic brush of Schumacher, and is also having a thorough cleaning and painting throughout. The monthly communications of these two lodges will occur on Monday and Tuesday evenings next, but no work will be performed until the hall is again put in order, which will not be for some two weeks.

☞ On Sunday morning last, the oil cloth factory and print works of Alden Sampson & Sons, situate on Long Island, near New York city, were burnt. The building was four stories high and two hundred and seventy feet long. It gave employment to many men, and was the largest factory in the country to print floor cloths by machinery. The property was partially insured.

☞ The ladies of the Unitarian Society of this city will hold their annual Levee at Granite Hall, on Wednesday and Thursday evenings of next week. Among the entertainments to be presented on the occasion will be a Comic Opera entitled "Pepita," affording excellent opportunity for the display of the well known musical and dramatic talent of the Society.

☞ The First Baptist Church and Society of Augusta, have decided to accept the plan of Mr. J. C. Tibbetts, architect, for the rebuilding of their church edifice. A building committee has been appointed, and proposals will be issued for commencing the work early in the spring.

☞ A convention of members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held in Portland on Tuesday, 21st inst., passed a series of resolutions in favor of the principle of Lay Representation in the General Conference and all other conyocations having reference to the government and discipline of the church.

☞ The Lewiston *Journal* states that young Bridgham, who was concerned in the Buckfield shooting affair, and who was exonerated by the coroner's jury, has been arrested on a charge of manslaughter. He waived an examination, and was bound over to appear at the next March term of the Court at Paris.

☞ Mr. Charles Paine of Mercer, has a pair of steers four years old, that measure seven feet nine inches. They are of a red and white color, well matched, and apparently well trained. They were purchased two years ago of Mr. Wm. Nowell, of Fairfield.

☞ A new bell from the foundry of Messrs. Hooper, Boston, has been placed in the tower of the Methodist Church in this city. Its weight is 1200 pounds, and it gives forth a clear, musical tone, which is heard a great distance.

☞ The Portland & Kennebec Railroad Company have declared a dividend of 3 per cent. for six months, ending Jan. 1, 1868, payable at the Treasurer's office, Augusta, on the 1st of February next.

DICKENS IN PORTLAND. We learn from the Portland *Press* that the agent of Mr. Dickens has engaged the City Hall for one of his readings in that city on Monday evening, March 30th.

☞ A Grand Masquerade and Fancy Dress Ball will be given at Granite Hall in this city, on Thursday evening, February 18th.

Legislative Proceedings.

Aside from the usual routine business of the past week, we have but few important matters to record.

The vacancies in the Senate from York county have at last been filled, the majority report being adopted, which admitted to seats, James M. Burbank, and Augustus D. Merrow, democrats, and filling the remaining vacancy by the election of George Goodwin, republican. This makes the Senate stand, politically, twenty-five republicans and five democrats.

The Councillors nominated in the early part of the session, have been elected and qualified. Their names are—Henry C. Reed of Norway, George W. Randall of Portland, Daniel Holland of Lewiston, Joseph A. Sanborn of Readfield, Elias Milliken of Burnham, Ephraim Flint of Dover, and Daniel K. Hobart of Dennysville.

The special committee on the assumption of municipal war debts, have been instructed to inquire whether public policy as well as justice to the poorer towns and plantations, do not require that an amount of those debts should be assumed by the State, equal to twice that recommended by the Commissioners on Assumption, on the principle that such debts being incurred for the common benefit of the whole people and property of the State, property should contribute its fair proportion towards the discharge of such indebtedness, until the same is liquidated.

The Senate has passed to be engrossed a bill in regard to vicious, biting horses, but the House has laid the matter on the table. The bill provides that such animals shall be securely muzzled when standing on any public street, under a penalty of five dollars for each offence.

The Secretary of the Senate has been directed to apply to the Reporter of Decisions of Massachusetts for the opinion of the Supreme Court of that State, relating to the taxation of National Bank Stock, and their interpretation of the word *place* in the act of Congress providing for the taxation of such stock, and lay the same before the Senate.

Resolve in relation to the United States law providing for the taxation of National bank stock have been passed as reported to the Senate where its members voted unanimously to adopt them. These resolves provide that the United States law for the taxation of stock in National banks should be so amended as to allow the several States to provide for the taxation of the same in the municipalities in which such stock is owned. A long preamble and resolutions in relation to taxing U. S. bonds, submitted by Mr. Morris of Portland, has been referred to the Committee on Federal Relations. This is a scheme for the equalization of taxation, and according to Mr. Morris's plan, if adopted, would relieve the inequality which now exists without changing the form of the entire debt, and without violating the national faith. The proposition is that the general government should share with the municipalities the profits derived from the exemption of its bonds from local taxation.

A bill authorizing the town of Dexter to aid in the construction of the Bangor & Piscataquis railroad has passed both branches. While the subject was under debate in the House, the question involved was the general principle of allowing towns to raise money in aid of railroads. The bill provides that the inhabitants of Dover by a two-thirds vote may raise by taxation a loan, a sum not exceeding one and a half per cent. of the valuation of the town for the year 1867. Dover's contribution to the project is about $16,000, of which amount we believe some ten or twelve thousand dollars have already been raised, leaving about one per cent. of her valuation of $320,000 to be yet raised.

A bill has passed to be engrossed incorporating the Augusta and Hallowell Horse Railroad Company with a capital stock of $100,000. The corporators are H. S. Osgood, J. H. Manley of Augusta; and A. E. Washburn, T. De Wolfe Smith, George T. Wall and Simon Page, of Hallowell.

The House resolves of Mr. Walker of Machias, Democrat, declaring that the United States should protect its naturalized citizens when they return to their native land, and opposing the doctrine, "once a subject, always a subject," after being amended on motion of Mr. Foster of Portland, Republican, have passed both branches. Mr. Foster's amendment took stronger ground, declaring as it did that, wherever the American doctrine is denied, and the rights of neutralized citizens are violated thereby, it shall be regarded as an offence against the United States, and that justice and honor alike demand that the Executive of the Government should take immediate and efficient measures to restore such naturalized citizens to all the rights and privileges belonging to native born citizens.

The Committee on Interior Waters have reported a bill an act to prevent the throwing of slabs and other refuse stuff into the Penobscot river, which is on the House table.

The State banks have been exempted from specie payments for another year.

The Committee on the Judiciary have reported bill an act establishing a Supreme Court in Cumberland county, which is on the House table. This same committee have been requested to consider the expediency of fixing the pay of Sheriffs attending court at five dollars per day, instead of three dollars, the price now provided by law.

The Committee on Agriculture have been ordered to inquire into the expediency of altering the law so that towns cannot vote for any kind of neat stock to run at large in the highway. The same committee having been directed to inquire into the expediency of granting an opportunity to enable the Maine Agricultural Society to hold an exhibition during the coming season, have reported a resolve in favor of the exhibition.

The House has under consideration a bill repealing that section of our elective laws which provides that "no ballot shall be received at any election of State or town officers, unless in writing or printing, upon clean white paper, without any distinguishing marks or figures thereon, besides the persons to be voted for and the offices to be filled," &c. The supposed expediency of the repeal arises from the fact, that a question has arisen whether a part of the votes cast at the September election in one of the towns of York county, in alleged violation of this provision of the statute, should be counted.

The most important debate that has taken place, was occasioned by bill an act to repeal the Constabulary law, which was reported from the Judiciary Committee, without a dissenting vote. This bill is for an absolute repeal. Mr. Hale of Ellsworth, Republican, claimed that the Constabulary law was passed as an experiment, and that it has failed in its operations. It was full of inherent objections, and he was in favor of its entire repeal at once. Mr. Hubbard of North Berwick, democrat, while he was also for repeal did not think the gentlem n went quite far enough. He contended that not only should the Constabulary law be repealed, but also the amendatory law should also be obliterated from the statute book. He believed that prohibition had been a failure, and that the Constabulary had demonstrated it. On Tuesday an amendment was offered to the bill for repeal by Mr. Field, of Danville, republican, who proposes to leave the execution of the laws with the Governor. This bill proposed that whenever it shall be made to appear that any law of the State is not obeyed or respected in any municipality or place within the State, and the local authorities fail to enforce any law, the Governor by and with the advice of his council upon the application of ten legal voters may appoint a certain number of constables, not exceeding three at any one time to enforce the laws within the county in which they reside, and who shall not receive any fee for any warrant or as witnesses, but whose compensation shall be leit to the discretion of the Governor and Council. Mr. Field advocated his amendment in a short speech, declaring that he was in favor of the Constabulary law, and that it had been a success. He thought the friends of that law had made out their case and were entitled to a verdict. He was followed by Mr. Brickett of Augusta, republican, who contended that a special police was not necessary for the enforcement of the prohibitory law, but that it could be enforced as was other laws, by municipal and county officers. He saw no necessity for the Constabulary law, and hoped it would be repealed. Mr. Andrews of Buckfield, democrat, spoke at length, taking the same ground substantially as his *confrere*, Mr. Hubbard. Mr. Teague of Lyndon, republican, contended that there was not a scintilla of evidence that the people wanted the law repealed. He should vote against repeal. Mr. Perry of Mars Hill, republican, defended the law. In his county the law had done a great deal of good. He did not pretend to say that the liquor traffic had been annihilated,—it had been suppressed; but by the help of Almighty God, the temperance people intended to annihilate it from the State entirely. The discussion was renewed the following day, Mr. Billings of Freedom, republican, leading off in defence of the law. It is a question, said Mr. Billings, that has to do with the moral and material interests of the State, and in the minds of some with the welfare of political parties. He was one of those unfortunate individuals, who believed in the *odious* Constabulary law. The fault was not with the law, and ought not to be chargeable to it. The law it has been stated, is inherently wrong. He could only judge of the law by its fruits. Perhaps it is not the proper way, according to the views of some lawyers, but eminent jurists have decided otherwise. He cited Governor Andrews, who deemed that such a law was necessary for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Gov. Bullock also held to the same opinion. Mr. Billings referred to the principal objections urged against the law. It was not true that it was the result of hasty legislation. He was not ashamed to stand here to vindicate the rights of those who have suffered in consequence of the rum traffic. The expense of the law was then illustrated by its working in Hancock county. The expense is not so enormous as has been stated. In that county had been saved more than it had cost the State. He also saw strong reasons for having a force to put down the crime of rum selling, one of the greatest of crimes, and which the law recognizes as a crime. For one he had felt the smerting influence of the rum traffic, and knew of its damning influence. He did not wish to see the day when intemperance shall again sweep over the land like a stream of burning lava, blasting and destroying every noble green thing in its course. Mr. Hubbard replied to Mr. Billings, setting forth, as he said, those tangible objections which arise out of the enforcement of the prohibitory law. He charged that it was the *abuse* and not the use of intoxicating liquors that he held to be wrong.

Mr. Robinson of Dover, democrat, Mr. Field and others spoke, when the previous question was ordered. Mr. Field's amendment was rejected by a vote of 90 to 44, and the vote on the main question, which was on the repeal of the Constabulary, was taken, and the yeas and nays being ordered, resulted by a vote of 100 yeas and 32 nays.

An order has passed the House, directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the expediency of procuring a supplemental digest of the Maine reports. A resolve accompanies the order providing that the Secretary of State be authorized to contract with Masters Smith & Co., for the purchase of one hundred copies of the supplemental digest of the last eleven

Congressional Summary.

Fortieth Congress---Second Session.

MONDAY, Jan. 20.

SENATE. Mr. Harlan introduced a bill to renew the charter and extend the boundaries of the city of Washington, &c. The bill provides for annexing Georgetown and for the reorganization of the City Government.

Mr. Wilson introduced a bill in regard to the payment of bounties, &c., which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. It provides that no bounty shall be paid to a deserter, unless the Secretary of War, or the Secretary of the Navy, as the case may be, shall order the charge of desertion to be cancelled solely on the grounds that it was erroneously made.

Mr. Sherman with drew his motion that the Senate recede from its amendments on the cotton bill disagreed to by the House, and moved that the Senate insist upon them, and that a committee of conference be appointed. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Johnson then moved as a privileged question to take up his resolution to allow Philip F. Thomas to take his seat as Senator from Maryland.

Mr. Hendricks, a member of the Judiciary Committee, advocated the admission of Mr. Thomas to the seat as recommended by the committee, and defended him against the charge of having given aid and comfort to the enemy.

Mr. Frelinghuysen also advocated the adoption of the Committee's report, and reviewed at some length the charge of disloyalty, shown by the giving by Mr. Thomas of one hundred dollars to his son, who joined the rebel forces. The motive actuating Mr. Thomas was evidently parental solicitude to save his son from suffering, and not an intention to aid him in joining the enemy. There was no more reason for excluding Mr. Thomas than for excluding those North who discouraged the prosecution of the war by various means.

HOUSE. Mr. Blaine introduced a bill making an appropriation for rebuilding the United States Military Asylum at Togus, Me.

Mr. Pike presented a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to establish ports of delivery, and providing that American built vessels shall be put on the same footing as foreign built vessels for registry in case of wrecks.

By Mr. Hubbard of West Virginia—fixing the compensation of members of Congress at $4,000 per annum, and mileage at the rate of ten cents per mile. The compensation of the Speaker to be $7,000.

The reconstruction bill was then taken up and debated at length, by Messrs. Pruyn, Schofield, Bingham, and others.

TUESDAY Jan. 21.

SENATE. A petition was presented from members of the Constitutional Convention of Georgia, asking Congress to authorize the establishment of provisional governments at the South. Referred.

The resolution that Philip F. Thomas is a Senator elect from Maryland, was taken up.

Mr. Howard addressed the Senate at length in opposition to the resolution.

Mr. Morton also opposed the admission of Mr. Thomas. He believed that Mr. Thomas was one of the original conspirators and would have engaged in the rebellion, but that Maryland had been unexpectedly constrained to remain in the Union.

Mr. Williams supported the resolution.

After further remarks in opposition by Messrs. Morrill of Maine and Stewart, Mr. Johnson gave notice that he would press for a vote to-morrow, and moved to adjurn.

HOUSE. The reconstruction bill was taken up, the question being the motion of Mr. Butler to reconsider the vote ordering the main question on the bill reported from the Committee on Reconstruction. The question was taken by yeas and nays, and resulted—yeas 83, nays 75. So the vote was reconsidered, and Mr. Butler offered his amendment, giving the State officers to the Constitutional Convention, and then moved the previous question.

The amendments offered by Mr. Bingham yesterday were agreed to without division.

Mr. Butler then briefly explained his amendment, which differed, he said, by having State officers appointed by the several Constitutional Conventions after they have submitted a Constitution to the people, instead of having those officers appointed by district commanders. He had offered his amendment in obedience to a universal cry to that effected, coming up from every Southern State.

The House proceeded to vote by yeas and nays on Mr. Butler's amendment, and it was rejected by yeas 53, nays 112. The bill was then passed—yeas 123, nays 45.

Mr. Schenck, from the conference committee on the bill to suspend the further contraction of the currency, reported that the committee had agreed to recommend that the Senate recede from its amendment and agree to the House bill, with the following amendment: "But nothing herein contained shall prevent cancellation and destruction of mutilated United States notes and replacing the same with notes of the same character and amount." The report was agreed to.

Mr. Logan, from the conference committee on the cotton tax bill, reported the committee had not been able to agree.

The House then ordered another conference committee, and Messrs. Schenck, Morehead and Beck, were appointed.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 22.

SENATE. The report of the committee of conference on the bill to prevent the further contraction of the currency, was accepted and the amendment adopted.

A bill was passed appropriating $15,000 for the relief of the destitute people of the District of Columbia.

HOUSE. Proceeded to the consideration of the Senate amendments to the deficiency bill, and disposed of them as follows:

The amendment appropriating $1,844 as an increased compensation to the Congressional printer, was concurred in, and appropriating $15,000 for stationery, with a proviso that hereafter only $125 shall be allowed for stationery and newspapers to each member or senator for any one session.

This item gave rise to considerable discussion, in the course of which, in reply to a suggestion by Mr. Maynard that all members should be allowed to draw what stationery they needed, Mr. Stevens of Pennsylvania, said that the plan had been tried and had to be changed because some members procured under the name of stationery pantaloons, shirts, and shaving soap enough to last them for years. Some members had run up their account for stationery to nearly a thousand dollars.

Mr. Blaine introduced a bill in relation to taxing shares in National banks. Referred to Committee on Banking and Currency. It enacts that the words "the place where the bank is located and not elsewhere," in section 41 of National Currency act, shall be construed to mean State in which the bank is located; and the State Legislature shall determine and direct the manner and place of taxing shares of National banks in the State, subject to restriction; that taxation shall not be at a greater rate than is assessed upon other monied capital, and provided that shares of any National banks owned by non-residents of any State shall be taxed in the city or town where the bank is located and elsewhere.

THURSDAY, Jan 23.

SENATE. On the second reading of act supplementary to act for the more efficient government of the rebel States, passed March 2, 1868, Mr Doolittle took the floor, and moved an amendment, establishing three qualifications, one of which the negro must hold in order to vote: 1st, military service of one year or more; 2d, ability to read and write; 3d, freehold property worth $250.

Mr. Trumbull spoke in reply to Mr. Doolittle.

The committee of conference on the cotton tax bill reported in favor of a compromise on the amendments that cotton imported after July 1st, 1868, shall be exempt from duty. Adopted.

HOUSE. The House resumed consideration of the Senate amendment to House bill in relation to an additional bounty, the question being on an amendment reported from the Committee on Military Affairs—The Senate amendment which is a substitute for the House bill provides that if a person, entitled as a soldier to bounty provided by section 12 and 13 of the act of July 18, 1866, dies before receiving it, the bounty shall be paid his heirs, as designated in the act, in the order therein named and none other. The amendments of the Committee are to add after the word "person" the words "or persons," and strike out the words "as a soldier."

After considerable discussion on the scope and effect of the proposed measure, the House seconded the previous question.

The amendments reported by the Committe on Military Affairs were agreed to, and the Senate's amendment as amended was agreed on, by yeas 84, nays 52.

FRIDAY, Jan. 24.

SENATE. The reconstruction bill was taken of and Messrs. Morton and Nye spoke in support of the measure.

Mr. Wilson called up the joint resolution authorizing the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau to distribute to the destitute people of the South such dessicated meats and vegetables provided during the war as are not needed for the use of the army, which was passed.

The Senate adjourned over to Monday.

HOUSE. Mr Washburne, of Illinois, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the regular appropriation bill. It was ordered to be printed and recommitted. The bill appropriates between $18,000,000 and $19,000,000.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the bill to prevent the payment of any claim in cases arising during the rebellion until further action of Congress. No action was taken.

SATURDAY, Jan. 25.

The SENATE was not in session.

In the House the time was occupied by the members in speeches upon the reconstruction and financial measures now before Congress.

MONDAY, Jan. 27.

SENATE. On motion of Mr. Conness the supplementary reconstruction bill was taken up, the question being on Mr. Doolittle's motion to instruct the judiciary committee to report his amendment.

Mr. Wilson spoke in reply to Mr. Doolittle and in support of the amendment proposed to the reconstruction act.

The bill for the relief from disabilities of Robert Patten was taken up.

Mr. Davis opposed the bill saying that the application was dictated by a desire to get office and he proceded to denounce Patten and others coming on the same errands as double traitors.

Mr. Seward said that perhaps the Senator did not understand that Gov. Patten had been pardoned by the President and appointed Provisional Governor.

Mr. Davis asked if that made him any better.

Mr. Stewart said he thought not. The difference between him and others who had been pardoned was that he had repented of his crimes and they had not.

After further debate the bill was passed. Yeas 25 nays 5. Buckalew, Davis, Drake, Foster and Hendricks voting nay.

HOUSE. Mr. Clarke of Kansas offered a preamble and resolution reciting that the act of Jan. 24, 1867, provides that there shall be no denial of the elective franchise in any of the territories on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude, and that it is reported that the Legislature of Montana has passed a bill, which has been approved by the Governor of Montana Territory, restricting the franchise to white male citizens, and instructing the Judiciary committee to inquire into the facts, and report such measures as may be necessary to secure obedience on the part of the Legislature and Governor of Montana to the laws of Congress. Adopted and referred to the Committee on Territories.

The Speaker presented a petition of members of Constitutional Convention of Louisiana, asking for the removal of Gen. Hancock and of State and Parish officers.

The bill to prevent the payment of certain claims arising out of the rebellion without the assent of Congress, was passed.

Mr. Banks from the committee on Foreign Affairs reported a bill concerning the rights of American citizens in foreign States, which was ordered to be printed and recommitted, it being understood that it will be reported back for action this week.

Mr. Spalding asked leave to offer a resolution authorizing the Committee on Reconstruction to inquire whether combinations have been made or attempted to be made to obstruct the due execution of the laws, with power to send for persons and papers to examine witnesses under oath and to report at any time. Objections were made, the rules were suspended and the resolution offered and adopted.

MUSHROOM PERFUMES. Of the swarm of inferior perfumes got up to compete with Phalon's "Night-Blooming Cereus," scarcely even the memory remains. They are literally forgotten, while the sales of that *ne plus ultra* of all fragrance constantly increases.—*Winsted Herald.* 2weop8

Special Notices.

FANCY THE DISMAY

Which would prevail in thousands of Households

If it should be suddenly announced throughout the United States Canadas, the West Indies and Spanish America that no more HOSTETTER'S BITTERS would be manufactured, and that henceforth the Grand Specific for Dyspepsia, and preventive of all malarious diseases would be Lost to the World! The billous the feeble, the despondent; the traveler, the voyager, the miner, the sedentary student; the settler on the frontier of civilization; the toiler, cooped up in crowded city tenements; the convalescent needing an invigorater; the shivering victim of ague, and the nervous of both sexes everywhere, would learn, with grief, too deep for words, that the most celebrated corrective, invigorant and alterative of the age, had been blotted out of existence. As a Preparatory Antidote to epidemic disease, a genial stimulant, a promoter of constitutional vigor, an appetiser, a stomachic, and a remedy for nervous debility, no medicinal preparation has ever attained the reputation of HOSTETTER'S BITTERS It is the HOUSEHOLD TONIC of the AMERICAN PEOPLE—has been so for twenty years, and in all human probability will be so for centuries to come. The magnates of Science recognize its merits; and that it is emphatically the medicine of the masses is proved by its vast and ever increasing sales. 1m4

R. R. R. Radway's Ready Relief is the only Vegetable Remedy, in liquid form, that will cure at once all bilious attacks, fevers, rheumatism, neuralgia, toothache, headache, spasms, dipthería, influenza, kidney and bladder diseases. One application will in a few minutes afford immediate comfort.

SISTERS OF MERCY, DORCHESTER St., Montreal, C. E., } Hospital of the Sisters of Mercy }

DR. RADWAY:—I certify that your Ready Relief has cured over one hundred of our sick from chills, vomiting, headaches, internal pains, &c., &c.

One of our Sisters had the Rheumatism in her head for a great many years. Having taken a few spoonsful of Relief in water, and rubbing her head twice with the same medicine, she was perfectly cured, and never felt it since. I always use it for dyspepsia and for colds always with success. It is very useful for sore throat, coughs, influenza, dipthería, &c. It has a good effect in flatulence or wind colic. I use it for foul breath, and it produces a marvelous effect. In short, it procures relief altogether remarkable to our invalids SISTER MARY DE BONSECOURS.

Sudden colds, coughs, influenza, dipthería, hoarseness, sore throat, chills, fever and ague, mercurial pains, scarlet fever, &c., &c. Take from four to six of Radway's Pills and also take a teaspoonful of the Ready Relief in a glass of water, sweetened with sugar or honey; bathe the throat, head and chest with Ready Relief, (if ague or intermittent fever, bathe the spine also); in the morning you will be cured See Dr. Radway's Almanac for 1868, R. R. R. sold by Druggists. 2w7

From the "Home Monthly." Some years since, while residing in the city of Providence, we heard much said in praise of Perry Davis' "Pain Killer." We listen incredulously to these testimonials. Well, health failing, as a last resort, the doctors sent us to Minnesota. The winter was intensely cold, and a terrible form of Neuralgia prevailed among the settlers, and we fell into the grasp of the disease, and day and night for weeks, endured untold agony. Many remedies were tried without avail. One day however, a stalwart frontiersman entered the room, bearing in his hand a vial partly filled with a reddish liquid.

It was some of the *Pain Killer*. He bought it in California three years before, and had kept it with miserly care until then. Apply it externally and internally gave immediate relief. Since then, we have recommended it successfully in cases that baffled the best medical skill; and when we see persons reject this remedy we recall our own experience, and think that the time may come when pain, less rable by other agents, may teach them the value of this great discovery. 2w8

ANDREW COE'S SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

From Dr. Geo. B. Loring, Pres't New England Ag. Society.

SALEM, Nov. 9th, 1867.

ANDREW COE, Esq. Baltimore, Md.—*My Dear Sir:*—I am happy to state that your Super-phosphate worked well on the crops on which I applied it. I used it in comparison with other manures, and I can recommend it highly as one of the best of Fertilizers.

Truly yours, &c.,
GEO. B LORING.

For sale at Wholesale and Retail by C. L. BARTLETT & CO., Boston, Mass. 6tf

"FISHER'S COUGH DROPS"

Will, if taken in season, break up any cough, and prevent *Consumption*. It has in many cases cured the patient when given up by the physician, and is especially recommended to those who are troubled with night coughs, as it insures a sweet and refreshing sleep.

NASON, SYMONDS & CO., Kennebunk, Me., Proprietors; GEO. C. GOODWIN & CO., Boston, General Agents. Sold by all druggists. 6m43

AMERICA AGAINST ENGLAND.

American Company Toilet Soaps—HONEY, GLYCERINE, BOUQUET and P. LM. These popular Soaps are made from the choicest materials, very richly perfumed, warranted not only equal but superior to the English, and 50 per cent. cheaper. They are superceding all foreign toilet Soaps in this market, as it is well known that since their introduction the demand for the latter has fallen off fully one-half. Manufactured only by McKEONE, VAN HAAGEN & CO., 13teop49 Philadelphia and New York.

Oriental Detersive Soap. This is decidedly the best and greatest labor-saving Soap in the world. It is made upon a new principle, and warranted to give entire satisfaction. One pound of it will go as far as three of any other family soap. Clothes need no boiling, very little hard rubbing, no washboard required. Over two hundred thousand families are now using it. For sale by dealers everywhere.

Manufactured only by
6meop50 McKEONE, VAN HAAGEN & CO., Philadelphia and New York.

Turner's Tic Doloureux or Universal Neuralgia Pill is a safe, certain and speedy Cure for Neuralgia and all Nervous Diseases. The severest cases are completely and permanently cured in a very short time. Neuralgia in the face or head is utterly banished in a few hours. No form of Nervous disease withstands its magic influence. It has the unqualified approval of many eminent physicians It contains nothing injurious to the most delicate system. Sold everywhere. Sent on receipt of $1.00 and two postage stamps.

TURNER & CO.,
1y30 120 Tremont street, Boston, Mass., Proprietors.

ITCH! ITCH!! ITCH!!!

Scratch! Scratch!! Scratch!!! in from 10 to 48 hours Wheaton's Ointment cures the Itch, Wheaton's Ointment cures Salt Rheum, Wheaton's Ointment cures Tetter, Wheaton's Ointment cures Barber's Itch, Wheaton's Ointment cures Old Sores, Wheaton's Ointment cures every kind of Humor like magic

Price 50 cents a box; by mail, 60 cents. Address WEEKS & POTTER, No. 170 Washington Street, Boston, Mass. For sale by all Druggists.

Boston, August 26, 1866. 1y39

"MESSRS. REED, CUTLER & CO., Boston:—*Gentleman:* We the undersigned Wholesale Druggists, having for many years sold your **Vegetable Pulmonary Balsam**, are happy to bear testimony to its great efficacy in all Pulmonary Complaints. We know of no medicine which has deservedly sustained so high a reputation for so long a term of years." [signed by the oldest and largest houses in the country.] Get the genuine. 71m

Whiskers. DR. LANGTON'S CURRILLIA will force Whiskers upon the smoothest face, or Hair upon Bald Heads Never known to fail. Sample sent for 10 cents. Address REEVES & CO. 48 Nassau St., New York. 1y30

If you know of a friend suffering from irritation of Throat Lungs, or Chest, or in any way troubled with Kidney complaints, advise them to try the *White Pine Compound* They will never regret the trial, but will thank you for the advice. 2w7

A Time for all Things and a place for all Things. Now, when *cholera* is lurking all over the land, is the time to purify the blood by using Dr. J. W. Poland's Humor Doctor. A sure remedy, and pleasant to the taste. sold by all Druggists.

NOTICE.

At the Annual Meeting of the Kennebec County Agricultural Society held at Readfield, January 27th, the following Officers were chosen:

Hon. E. O. Bean, President; S. Kilbreth, D. M. Thing, S. G. Fogg, Vice Presidents; David Cargill, Recording and Corresponding Secretary; J. P. Johnson, Treasurer, Collector and Librarian; Gilman Hawes, Agent; F. Fuller, Geo. Underwood, John Berry, Trustees.

The following vote was passed:

Voted, That in the judgment of this Society, it is expedient that the Legislature should make an appropriation to the State Society for the purpose of having an Agricultural Exhibition this year. 8

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE N. E. AG. SOCIETY,

The annual meeting of the New England Agricultural Society, for the election of officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before it, will be held at the Boston Board of Trade, corner of Chauncy and Bedford streets, in Boston, on TUESDAY, the fourth day of February next, at ten o'clock, A. M.

DANIEL NEEDHAM, Sec'y.
GEO. B. LORING, President.
January 20th, 1869. 1w8

Married.

In Augusta, Jan 27, by Rev. E Turner, Charles B Gray to Henrietta A Cook, both of Sidney.

In Kent's Hill, Dec. 25, John F Wing of Monmouth to Flavilla Freeman of Gorawille.

In Round Pond, Jan. 22, by D Chamberlain, Esq., Andrew W Fuller to Annie M Hatch, both of Bristol.

In Lincolnville, Jan. 18, by J D Tucker, Esq., Frank Rackliff to Nancy B Tucker.

Died.

In Augusta, Jan 9, Mrs. Lucinda, relict of John Hartwell, aged 87 yrs 4 mos.; also, Jan. 27, Mrs. Emma Gilbreth, aged 48 yrs, wife of Cap. Benjamin H Gilbreth, U S Ordnance Corps, stationed at the U S Arsenal in this city.

In Readfield, Jan 15th, Alfred B Hunt, aged 32 years 7 months.

In Troy, Jan 16th, Mrs Thomas Ward, aged 74.

In Liberty, Jan 17th, Wm E Arnold, aged 39.

In Starks, Jan 22d, Mrs Jemima Williamson, aged 87.

In Pittston, Jan. 8, Elijah Jackson, aged 79 years.

PHILIP PHILLIPS & CO.,

37 Union Square, Broadway, N. Y.,

PUBLISHERS OF THE

"Singing Pilgrim" "Musical Leaves,"

AND NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL MUSIC.

The Sunday School Music which we are now publishing is undoubtedly fast becoming the Standard Sunday School Music of the day. The Music is attractive, easily learned, sings well in concert, and the poetry the most substantial and precious of the Christian life, which constantly grows in use by use. The Singing Pilgrim and Musical Leaves are the singing books that have been used at the State Sunday School Conventions of New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and in the Provincial Sunday School Associations of Canada East and West, and also in the late Sunday School Teachers' Institutes held in New York, Philadelphia, and other cities Get the best books and in the end they will be the cheapest, most profitable and satisfactory. 4t8

WILBOR'S COD LIVER OIL AND LIME.

The great popularity of this safe and effectious preparation is alone attributable to its intrinsic worth. In the cure of Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Whooping Cough, and all consumptive symptoms, it has no superior, if equal. Let no one neglect the early symptoms of disease, when an agent is thus at hand which will alleviate all complaints of the Chest, Lungs, or Throat. Manufactured only by A. B. WILBOR, Chemist, No. 166 Court street, Boston. 4t7

CANCER, SCROFULA, &c., CURED.

A Book describing these and other diseases, and their means of cure, can be obtained *free* by addressing DR. R. GREENE, 10 Temple Place, Boston, Mass. 4t8

WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!

The address of one or two persons of either sex in every town and village, who desire a good and profitable employment. Address S. C. THOMPSON & CO. 4t8 30 Hanover St., Boston, Mass.

PIANOS,

Prices, $50, $75, $90, $100, $115, $125, $135, $150, $175, $190, $200, $225, $250, $265.

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No. 289 Washington, St., Boston.

BAY STATE COMMERCIAL COLLEGE,

583 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON,

The Business Course embraces Book Keeping in all its departments, as practised in the best Merchantile Houses, of this and other cities. **Commercial Arithmetic**, including many short methods of computation in Fractions, Decimals, Interest, Averaging Accounts, Exchange, &c., &c., seldom, taught in other schools. **Business Penmanship** taught by one of the best and most practical penmen in this country. **Commercial Law, Business Correspondence**, includes the general details of Letter Writing, together with the forms of all Busines Papers. **Banking**, in which the general business of Banking is carried out as in actual practice. 4t8 O. E. CHAMBERLAIN, Prins.

"MESSRS. REED, CUTLER & CO., BOSTON:—

GENTLEMEN:—We, the undersigned, *Wholesale Druggists*, having for many years sold your **Vegetable Pulmonary Balsam**, are happy to bear testimony to its great efficacy in all *Pulmonary Complaints*. We know of no medicine which has deservedly sustained so high a reputation for so long a term of years" (signed by the oldest and largest houses in the country.) Get the genuine. 4t8

CHILDREN.

All parents should understand that children's shoes, with metal tips, will wear at least three times as long as those without. The new Silver Tip is decidedly ornamental, and is being extensively used on children's first-class shoes. Sold everywhere. 4t8

AGENTS WANTED

MALE or FEMALE, everywhere, to sell our new and splendid Eng aving entitled "From Shore to Shore," suggestive of Life's Journey from Childhood to Old Age. A perfect gem. Address B B. RUSSELL & CO, Boston, Mass. 4t8

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A weekly paper, the only political journal in the country demanding the right of **Suffrage for Women in the Reconstruction.** ELIZ BETH CADY STANTON, PARKER PILLSBURY, Editors.

TERMS.—$2.00 per Annum in advance. *Ten names and $20 will entitle the sender to one copy free.* SUSAN B. ANTHONY, Publisher, 37 Park Row, Room 17, New York. 4t8

$200 PER MONTH SURE,

And no money required in advance. Agents wanted everywhere to sell our *Patent Everlasting Metalic Clothes Lines*. Send for ricular Address, The American Wire Co., 102 Broadway, N. Y., or Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill. 4t8

BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE.

This splendid Hair Dye is the best in the world; the only true and perfect Dye; harmless, reliable, instantaneous; no disappointment; no ridiculous tints; remedies the ill effects of bad dyes; invigorates and leaves the hair soft and beautiful *black or brown*. Sold by all Druggists and Perfumers; and properly applied at Batchelor's Wig Factory, No. 16 Bond Street N. Y. 1y8

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN EMPLOYED.

Picture business. Very profitable. No risk. Seventeen specimen Pictures and Catalogue sent for 20 cents, twice as many 30 cent. MASON LANG, 4t8 94 Columbia St., N. Y. City.

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THE BEST FERTILIZER!

NOW OB EVER MANUFACTURED AND offered to the Public.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME,

Lately Improved and Patented.

MANUFACTURED BY

HERBERT & HAIRSTON,

Under the Superintendence of

ANDREW COE,

BALTIMORE, MD.

Every Barrel and Bag Warranted.

Price in Boston, $60 00 per ton, Wholesale.
" " $65.00 per ton, Retail.

Send for a Book of Testimonials. Sold at Wholesale and Retail by

C. L. BARTLETT & CO.,
12t8 16 Broad St., Boston, Mass.

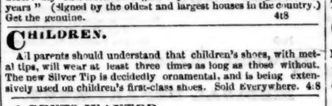
PERUVIAN GUANO.

WARRANTED PURE.

THE MOST VALUABLE, RELIABLE AND CHEAPEST FERTILIZER KNOWN.

For sale in any quantity, received direct from Government Agents. C. L. BARTLETT & CO., 12t8 16 Broad St., Boston.

DAIRYMEN AND CHEESE MAKERS.



We are making the best Cheese Press Screw in market. Send for circular and prices. Address RUMSEY & CO., 1t8 Seneca Falls, N. Y.

TO CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS.

Sealed proposals will be received at the Office of David Cargill, Insurance Agent, Granite Block, Augusta, up to Feb. 20th, for furnishing labor, material, mechanical workmanship, &c, required in taking down certain parts, moving, enlarging and thoroughly rebuilding the Baptist Church Edifice in Augusta.

The Committee reserve the right to reject any and all bids unless deemed entirely satisfactory.

The plans and specifications can be examined at the Office of the Architect, J. C. Tibbetts, Esq., Hunt's Block, Water St., by whom all needful information will be given.

L. PARSONS,
A. W PHILBROOK,
HIRAM REED,
CHAS HAMLEN,
ELISHA PINKHAM,
} *Building Committee.*

Augusta, Jan. 20th, 1869. 4w8

FARM FOR SALE.

The Farm owned by the late Dr. J. M. MILLIKEN, in Scarboro'. Said Farm is situated on the main road leading from Saco to Portland, within 1 mile of the Depot and 8½ miles of Old Orchard Beach It comprises about 200 acres: woodland, tillage, pasturage and marsh—is in excellent order; as are also the buildings, consisting of a substantial brick house, with all farming conveniences, ample barn woodshed, &c, and a good well of water. There are two fine orchards with choice varieties of apples, pears and grapes.

This Farm will be sold entire or in lots, to suit purchasers. It is a desirable location for a Physician, or for any one wishing for a pleasant country residence.

For further particulars inquire of Hon. Seth Scamman, Scarboro', or on the premises of W. S. MILLIKEN. Jan. 23th, 1868. 3t8

TRUE'S POTATO PLANTER.

IMPROVED FOR 1868.

Saves the labor of 12 to 20 men. It has received the **Grand Silver Medal** of the American Institute, and first premiums at the New York and Vermont State Fairs, the New England Fair, International Fair at Norristown, Pa., and several others. It is recommended by S. E. Todd, Agricultural Editor, of *N. Y. Times*, J Harris, writer of "Walks and Talks" in the *American Agriculturist*, and many others in every section of the Union, who have used them. Orders for Machines promptly filled. Western States for sale. Send stamps for pamphlet. 8tf J. L. TRUE, Benton, Me.

BELGRADE ACADEMY.

The Spring Term will commence Monday, Feb. 17, 1868, and continue eleven Weeks.

Tuition: Primary Department, (per term), $3.00 Common English, $5 50; Higher English, 4 00; Languages, $5.00.

ELIZA C. BOWERS, A. B., Principal.

Belgrade, Jan. 20, 1868. 3t8 PER ORDER TRUSTEES.

WATERVILLE CLASSICAL INSTITUTE.

The Spring term will begin Feb. 10th. For fuller information send for Catalogue. 3t8 J. H. HANSON, Principal.

FOR SALE.

Young Bull "BUCKEYE" thoroughbred Ayrshire, 1 year old next May, by Tam O'Shanter on one side, Saco 2d, Davis Bull, (imported), Duke of Portland, on the other.

Orland, Jan. 24, 1868. 8tf F. BUCK.

WE ARE STILL DYEING,

Cleansing, Repairing Garments of all kinds at the Steam Dye House. 8tf PACKARD & PHINNEY.

REVENUE STAMPS,

In any quantity, of any description, for sale by
51 E. FENNO & SON.

AGENTS WANTED FOR

THE BLUE-COATS,

And how they lived, fought and died for the Union,

With Scenes and and Incidents in the Great Rebellion.

It contains over 100 fine engravings and 550 pages, and is the spiciest and cheapest war book published. Price only $2.50 per copy.

CAUTION. Some of our Agents have taken advantage of the great popularity and large size of this work to raise the price to $3 and $3 50 per copy. The public are hereby notified that they have no right to charge more than $2 50. Inferior works, purporting to be of similar character to "THE BLUE-COATS," are being circulated, and we therefore caution both Agents and the public to see that the book they buy contains over 100 fine engravings and 500 pages. Send for Circulars to JONES BROS. & CO., Phila., Pa. 4t8

COOKING BY STEAM!

H. L. DUNCKLEE'S

PULTON STEAMER.

A Great Revolution in Cooking!

A Meal of 8 or 10 varieties cooked over one hole of a Stove or Range in half the time I can be done by any other process.

Puddings, Cake, or Bread cooked at the same time, over Meats. Poultry, Potatoes, Cabbage, Turnips, Beets and Onions, without particle of the flavor of these vegetables.

This apparatus condenses its own steam during the cooking, and all the juices and flavor concentrated in the lower vessel make a delicious soup by the addition of a little seasoning.

This steamer has the advantage over all others, by having each part made so it can be detached and cleaned from all the impurities or deposits arising from cooking.

A single Bunsil Gas Burner will do the work of a 50 dollar stove.

An examination of this apparatus will convince any one of its superiority over all others.

Agents wanted in every town in the U. S. Ten sizes from 6 to 50 dollars.

POND & DUNCKLEE,
4t8 87 Blackstone St., Boston.

PIANO FORTE TUNING AND REPAIRING.

The undersigned, of Boston, intends visiting this city every three months to Tune and Repair Pianos.

Written orders sent through Post Office in care of Prof. M. W. Millikin, Granite Block, or to Mr. Hooper, at the Augusta House. R. H HOOPER.
Augusta, Dec. 28th, 1867. 10t4*

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Newspapers, Periodicals, School Books, Stationery and Music, at PATTERSON'S.

A large assortment of Fancy and Toilet Goods for sale at cost. 1m8.

ESSAYS FOR YOUNG MEN

On Errors and Abuses incident to Youth and Early Manhood, with the Humane View of Treatment and Cure. Sent by mail free of charge Address, HOWARD ASSOCIATION, Box P, Philadelphia, Pa. 4t8

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Containing New Parlor Plays, Magic Sports, Problems, Puzzles, Oddities and Novelties. 16 large pages, illustrated. Address ADAMS & CO., Publishers, Boston. 4t8

THE CHRISTIAN, 60 CENTS!!

A large, live, 8 page monthly religious and family paper, containing facts, incidents, tales, sketches, music, poetry, *true* stories, &c., exciting for young, old, saints, sinners, one and all. No sectarianism, controversy, politics, puffs, pills, or patent medicines 60 cts. a year; 10 copies $5 For Sunday Schools, 10 copies, $4. Send 10 cents for 3 specimens before you forget it. Vol. 3 begins Jan., '68. 1000 pages new, live tracts, for $1. Address, H. L. HASTINGS, Tract Repository, 19 Lindall St., Boston, Mass. 4t8

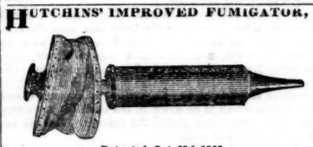
ONE OUNCE OF GOLD

Will be given for every ounce of adulteratfon found in "B. T. BABBITT'S LION COFFEE." This Coffee is roasted, ground, and sealed "*hermetically*," under letters patent from the U. S. Government All the "aroma" is saved, and the coffee presents a rich, glossy appearance. Every family should use it, as it is 10 to 20 per cent stronger than other pure ure "Coffee." One can in every twenty contains a **$1 Greenback.** For sale everywhere. If your grocer does not keep this coffee, and will not get it for you, send your orders direct to the factory B. T. BABBITT, Nos. 64 to 74 Washington St, N. Y. 4t8

GOLDEN HILL SEMINARY

For Young Ladies, Bridgeport, Conn., Address, Miss Emily Nelson. 4t8

HUTCHINS' IMPROVED FUMIGATOR,



Patented, Oct. 23d, 1866.

Diploma awarded at the N. E., and Vt. Fair, 1866.

TOBACCO SMOKE is the most effective remedy for the destruction of Ticks, Lice &c, that has ever been tried; and if you have one of my improved Fumigators, they can be destroyed with very little trouble or cost. One pound of tobacco being sufficient for 100 sheep, and a man can smoke from 25 to 50 sheep per hour. Now is the time to destroy ticks and lice as it sometimes costs more to winter them than it does the sheep and cattle. Price from right included, $2.50, for which I will send it it to any address.

For sale wholesale and retail by C. H Dunning, Bangor, Me; Kendall & Whitney, Portland; Jos. Breck & Son, Boston, and by the trade generally. Agents wanted. Address

ISAAC HUTCHINS, Jr.,
Oct. 15, 1867. 46eoptf Wellington, Me.

A COUGH, A COLD OR A SORE THROAT.

Requires immediate attention, and should be checked. If allowed to continue,

Irritation of the Lungs, a Permanent Throat Disease, or Consumption,

is often the result.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES

Having a direct influence to the parts, give immediate relief **For Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh, Consumptive and Throat Diseases,** Troches are used with always good success.

Singers and Public Speakers use them to clear and strengthen the voice.

Obtain only "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES," and do not take any of the worthless imitations, that may be offered. Sold everywhere. 3m52

CANCERS,

CURED WITHOUT PAIN, use of the knife, or caustic burning. Circulars sent free of charge. Address Drs. BABCOCK & SON, 700 Broadway, New York. 3m52

CONSTITUTION WATER

Is a certain cure for Diabetes and all diseases of the Kidneys. For sale by all Druggists. 3m1

$10 A DAY MADE BY ANY ONE.

With my Patent Stencil Tools. I prepay samples free. Beware of infringers My circulars will explain. Address A. J. FULLAM, Springfield Vt. 1y3

FOR THE FARMERS!

Oil Cake, Cotton Seed Meal, Bone meal, Mineral Salt, Shorts, Fine Feed, &c. Also Grass and Field Seeds, Guano. All the most approved Phosphates, Crushed and Ground bone, &c., for sale low either at wholesale or retail by JOHN McARTHUR. No. 5 Williams Block.
Augusta, Jan. 20, 1868. 7tf

A. STAPLES,

LICENSED REAL ESTATE AGENT,

Office No. 2 State Street Block, Augusta, Me.

Special attention given to the purchase and sale of Real Estate and the collection of rents. Houses, Stores, Farms, &c., in eligible locations bought and sold at reasonable rates.

FOR SALE, Four Houses and two House lots. Two Stores to let. A. STAPLES, Real Estate Agent,
Augusta, Feb. 21, 1867. 13tf No. 2 State Street Block.

A LARGE STOCK

—OF—

PRIME OLD MIXED CORN,

FLOUR of all grades,

BEST QUALITY OF COAL FOR FAMILY USE.

Also, best CUMBERLAND for Blacksmiths', for sale low for cash
Augusta, April 16, 1867. 19tf PARROTT & BRADBURY.

E. W, WHITEHOUSE,

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**OAK GROVE

Poetry.

THE VICTIM.

BY ALFRED TENNYSON.

1.

A plague upon the people fell,
A famine after laid them low,
Then thorpe and byre arose in fire,
For on them brake the sudden foe;
So thick they died the people cried
"The gods are moved against the land."
The priest in horror about his altar
To Thor and Odin lifted a hand.
"Help us from famine
And plague and strife!
What would you have of us?
Human life?
Were it our nearest,
Were it our dearest,
(Answer, O answer,)
We give you his life."

II.

But still the foeman spoil'd and burn'd,
And cattle died, and deer in wood,
And bird in air, and fishes turn'd
And wither'd all the rolling flood;
And dead men lay all over the way,
Or down in a furrow scathed with flame;
And ever and aye the Priesthood moan'd,
Till at last it seem'd that an answer came:
"The King is happy
In child and wife;
Take you his nearest,
Take you his dearest,
Give us a life."

III.

The Priest went out by heath and hill,
The King was hunting in the wild;
They found the mother sitting still;
She cast her arms about the child.
The child was only eight summers old,
His beauty still with his years increased,
His face was ruddy, his hair was gold,
He seem'd a victim due to the Priest.
The Priest exulted,
And cried with joy,
"Here is his nearest,
Here is his dearest.
We take the boy."

IV.

The King returned from out the wild,
He bore but little game in hand;
The mother said, "They have taken the child
To spill his blood and heal the land:
The land is sick, the people diseased,
And blights and famine on all the lea:
The holy gods, they must be appeased,
So I pray you tell the truth to me.
They have taken our son,
They will have his life;
Is he your nearest?
Is he your dearest?
(Answer, O answer,)
Or I, the wife?

V.

The King bent low with hand on brow,
He stay'd his arms upon his knee;
"O wife, what use to answer now?
For now the Priest has judged for me."
The King was shaken with holy fear;
"The gods," he said, "would have chosen well;
Yet both are nearly, and both are dear,
And which the dearest I cannot tell!"
But the Priest was happy,
His victim won.
"We have his nearest,
We have his dearest,
His only son!"

VI.

The rites prepared, the victim bared,
The Knife uprising toward the blow,
To the altar stone she sprang alone,
"Me, me, not him, my darling, no!"
He caught her away with a sudden cry;
Suddenly from him brake the wife,
And shrieking "I am his dearest, I—
I am his dearest!" rush'd on the knife.
And the Priest was happy;
"Ah, Father Odin,
We gave you a life,
Which was his nearest?
Which was his dearest?
The gods have answered:
We gave thee his wife?

Our Story-Teller.

TEN YEARS A NUN.

You wish to hear in full detail an account of my sojourn and adventure in a French convent, of which you have only received the incomplete and unsatisfactory outlines. I went to France you know, against the wishes of my family and friends, having accepted a situation in a school there as English teacher. It is enough to say about that school that no decent English girl could have stayed, so utter was the dirt, discomfort and barbarism prevading it. I was compelled to leave it, but I was extremely reluctant to quit France without accomplishing my object, which was to perfect myself in the language; more especially as my friends had objected to the enterprise from the first. I traveled back, however, from the interior to a small seaport town, from which the transit to England was easy; and during my journey I took counsel with myself, and calculated my remaining stock of money, amounting to a little more than £26.

I had made up my mind before I reached the terminus, and there I inquired if there was an English Consul in the town. Certainly there was, at least a Vice-Consul; and for the small consideration of half a franc, a polite porter conducted me to his office. I entered it with some diffidence, and fronted three clerks seated at the orthodox, high desks, who bestowed upon me the orthodox, clerky stare. The Vice-Consul was summoned, and proved to be a German, who spoke English and French with equally amusing blunders. However, he was all kindness, and after due deliberation he asked if I should object to go into a convent. I felt a slight shock at first, but a few minutes thought decided me to go, and I said so. In that case, he replied, he could be of service to me, for without doubt he could obtain my admission into a convent in the town on the morrow. In the meantime he would see me safely lodged in a hotel for the night.

I must pass over my night alone in a foreign hotel, though there is a good deal I might tell you about it. In the morning the Vice-Consul came as appointed, and told me that I could be received in the convent for two pounds a month. The terms suited my means, as you see, and I accepted them gladly; so I gave twenty pounds into his hands asking him to call each month and pay the sum agreed upon. I went with him to the convent in a mood of cheerful alacrity, with my sense of the romantic fanned to a flame, picturing it as a gray, solemn, ecclesiastical build, standing in a vast, antique garden, surrounded by high, massive walls. Judge, then, of my disappointment, when I found a new brick building, not unlike an English workhouse, presenting a flat front of four stories to a dull street; on the other side of which were a few gloomy old houses, that seemed injured by the fresh paint and red brick-work of the upstart convent.

The Vice-Consul and I entered a bare waiting-room, something like those of prisons and hospitals, which was divided by a grille of iron bars about three inches apart, behind which was a nun, fat, rosy, and about forty years old, who was jabbering in rapid French to a peasant woman on our side of the grille. We were summoned to the upper end of the room, where Madame la Superieure waited to give us an interview; and she and I looked keenly at one another through the grating. I saw a face comely and shrewd, and barring the unmistakable traits of a lady under the white coiffure which concealed her hair the fine lips might have been chiseled in marble to express rule and decision; and the eyes, hazel-gray, instead of the common dark-brown of French eyes, had a directness and a penetration of gaze which I could only bear with difficulty.

"Mademoiselle is not so young as I supposed," she said to the Vice Consul; "she will not submit to the strictness of our rules. We permit our boarders to go out but once a month, and then under supervision.—Her letters will be read before she sends them out, or receives them, and she will not be allowed to hold any private conversation, except with me or one of the sisters."

The rules were rather too strict to be quite agreeable; but I had made up my mind to go into that convent, especially as the elegant and polished accent of Madame struck upon my ear as altogether the best French I had ever heard.

"I can submit to the rules," I said, and she smiled approval; "but will you let me see this gentlemen once a month, when he comes to discharge my obligations to you?

"Certainly, yes," replied Madame, graciously.

"And if any of my friends," I continued, "should come here to see me, you will not refuse me this? It is not probable, but it might happen."

"Without doubt," she answered, as affably as before.

I bade the Vice-Consul good-by almost effectionately, for he was my last friend in the wicked world I should quit when I entered those barred doors, and I felt something like tears in my eyes; but I was bent upon going through with my purpose, and the convent seemed the only home open to me in that strange land. The Superieure called a nun to show me to my chamber; and the door of the waiting-room was locked the instant we had passed through it. I felt that, like Esau, I had sold my birthright—the right of freedom. This feeling grew as I traversed the exquisitely clean but bare, empty passages and apartments of the interior, with doors locked or bolted, near each of which sat a sister, with keys fastened to her girdle. The lower windows, toward the street, were barred, a thick iron cross forming a portion of the bars, as if that blessed emblem were a token of captivity instead of liberty. But in my attic in the roof, where I felt sure I should be locked up at night, the casement opened wide, like doors, letting in the full freedom of light and air. I soon grew reconciled to the locking-up, and the everlasting sound of the keys ceased to to grate upon my ear. I became used to the confinement also, and felt that it was adventurous enough to stand at my open window and look out upon the beauties of the land and sea, or upon little street pictures, which I could see, or upon little tableaux vivants, in the queer little slums and alleys of the town, which my high position commanded.

The sisters, with the exception of the Superieure and one other, were as uninteresting a set of women as you can imagine. They were the ordinary Dorcas Ladies, and tract-distributors, and district visitors of our Protestant churches, playing at religion, as nuns, in a convent. Taking them in the mass, they were narrow-minded, self-satisfied women, mostly middle-aged, fond of gossip, and inclined to nurse their little ailments, though they could not have the luxury of a doctor unless they were dangerously ill. The Superieure was a lady by birth, intensely proud and ambitious, covetous to an excess, but admirably qualified for managing her large and troublesome family. I saw but little of her, for she had no time to give to an insignificant person like me.

But there was no ideal nun among them? Certainly; a slender graceful woman, about thirty, with the traces of great beauty left in her faded face. She moved solitary and sad, amidst the self-satisfied and stupid sisterhood surrounding her. My education was committed chiefly to her, and my conversation, as I learned later. There were many other boarders, but all French and Catholic, and, consequently, less interesting than an English heretic. Sister Catherine attached herself to me. At first our conversations were necessarily limited, but I made rapid progress in the language; and though I could not expound and defend our Protestant doctrines, I could soon perfectly comprehended all that was said to me, and I listened with laudable attention, until Sister Catherine was persuaded that I was near conversion. This impression at once increased her attachment to me, at the same time threw the Superieure off her guard as to the nature of the confidential intimacy which was established between the sister and myself

It was at two or three different times that I learned the history of Sister Catherine, which is simply as true as that I am now writing it. When only a girl of fifteen she had been sought in marriage by a cousin of her own, to whom her parents' sole objection arose from an old quarrel existing between them and his father. It was the old story of the feud between the Montagues and Capulets, with the added bitterness of blood-relationship. The cousin had prevailed upon Hortense—her maiden name—to fly from her home with him, and as it is simply impossible to contract a secret marriage in France, he had brought her to this convent, a hundred leagues from her father's house, and placed her in it as a boarder, until she was of age to serve her parents with a legal notice that she intended to unite herself in marriage with her cousin, Pierre de Forville. The Superieure was made their confidant; and as there were still six years to wait, Pierre, to mislead the vigilance of the parents, as well as of the police, resolved upon filling up the long interval with foreign travel, which would enable him to correspond with Hortense without danger or discovery.

The correspondence made happy the life of the cloistered girl, who was not fretted by convent rules as I was, and who had, moreover, her religious duties to occupy some of her time. But at last—it is an old story—Pierre's letters ceased to come, and then only, a brief note, written by a strange physician in an Italian city announced his death by cholera. The heart of Hortense was broken, and her health failed her. For four years she remained in her chamber, as much invalided in mind as body, during which time her father died, and she came into the inheritance of a third portion of his property, amounting to nearly seven thousand pounds. By his death she became one of the wealthiest inmates of the convent, and before long her mind, weak and wavering, became impressed with the duty of taking vows among the sisterhood. I could fancy easily the shrewd, subtle, covetous spirit of Mme. la Superieure pressing toward the rich prize of seven thousand pounds and the small chance that the enfeebled and disconsolate girl would have against her. It ended by her taking the vail at the age of twenty-one, the time when she should have married Pierre de Forville.

I suppose that Sister Catherine was not more unhappy than Hortense de Forville would have been. Everthing was settled now; all was ended; her whole life, henceforth, was to trickle slowly through the narrow channel of convent routine. But when five years—nearly six years—had passed, the tranquil triumph of Madame met with a violent check. Pierre de Forville was no more dead than Hortense herself; but he had received a pious and mournful letter from Madame, communicating to him her death and burial, and inquiring if a monument should be erected to her memory. He had come to the convent, been under the same roof with her who was heart-broken for his own supposed loss, seen her grave, and fled again to dissipate his grief, if he could, by travel more distant still from his native country. Six years after the profession of Sister Catherine, he had returned home, and discovered the fraud practised upon him, by the convincing proof that his cousin had inherited her share of her father's estate. He made his appearance at the convent gates, and demanded to see her whom he had confided to the motherly care of the Superieure twelve years before. Madame's false heart quaked within her. Here was a man who had been faithful for so many years, nine of which had been given to the memory of the dead: a man who would not forget, who would not be consoled, who saw no charms in any other woman. He was a troublesome visitor. It was useless to tell such a man any more lies. Yes; his Hortense was living, but she was the spouse of Heaven: no longer Hortense, but Sister Catherine, separated from him forever. He was not permitted to see her, even at the grille; for the Superieure had no wish that she should discover the falsehood. M. de Forville persisted in coming again and again to thunder at the convent doors, and made a scandal in the town. He could not be put down or silenced. He went to the Bishop, and when he could not, or would not, do anything for him, he wrote a pamphlet disclosing the whole case. For this he was prosecuted and imprisoned for six months; but upon regaining his liberty, he set to work more energetically than before, and appealing to the civil law, he demanded that the Mayor should see and interrogate his cousin. The Mayor paid an official visit to the convent, and saw Sister Catherine, but in the presence of the Superieure. He informed the astonished nun of her cousin's continued existence, and in the same breath inquired of her if she had taken the vows of her own free will. Shocked and bewildered, she murmured a few inaudible words in reply, which Madame interpreted to the Mayor as an avowal of her free and unbiased will in taking the veil; and the interview ended. The civil law could do no more. If Hortense de Forville chose to be a nun, no one could interfere to prevent it.

I listened to this story with intense interest, and a profound admiration for Pierre. What a prince among men must he be who could maintain a constancy like this! I wished that heaven had given me such a man. I looked at the pale and faded face before me, and tried to fancy what the girl of fifteen had been with whom he had parted in the gray gloom of the convent walls. I asked her to describe him, and she gave me a girl's valentine-like description: fine eyes, black hair, mustache, and white hands, with rings upon them. He was her "beau cousin." It was all she could say.

"And do you love him?" I asked.

A shiver ran through her frame, but her dim eyes flashed, and her pale cheeks flushed a little.

"Ah, yes; I love him," she whispered; "I fear I love him better than the angels or the blessed saints, —better than the Sainte Vierge herself."

She uttered the last words in a tone of candid horror, as if forced to speak the worst.

"Of course you do!" I said emphatically; "and you have no more right to be a nun than I have. You are one by fraud, and not by choice."

"Yes, she answered, weeping; "and I wish I had said so to the Mayor; but I was all confused and bewildered."

"O, if I were you, I should never rest till Pierre knew that I loved him still, better than anything else! I think how sad he must be to find that you have grown indifferent to him!"

"But what can I do?" asked Sister Catherine.

That was the question. Something ought to be done if it were only to assure the unhappy but faithful Pierre that his Hortense was not so senseless as to prefer a convent to himself; but how to do it was the difficulty. Nobody who has not tried it can have an idea of what it is to be perpetually under lock and key, and surrounded by spies. Our only chance was to write to M. de Forville, and direct the letter to his chateau, whence it would be sure to be forwarded to him; but how to get that letter to the post office? I racked my brain with schemes, but it was not till near Easter that a moderately prudent one presented itself.

The convent garden was on the other side of the street, with a subterranean passage beneath, by which we reached it. It was full in sight of several houses, from the windows of which we were often watched. It was nothing more than a long narrow patch of ground, with a straight walk all around it, and a little chapel in one corner, where the Perpetual Adoration of the Cross was maintained by our nuns. On the side beyond it, and nearer to the houses, was the priest's garden; but again beyond that was a garden belonging to a house which was generally let out in stages. A few days before Easter my ears were greeted by English laughter and English voices, coming to me over the intervening inclosure. I urged Sister Catherine to write her letter immediately; and I added to it a note to the effect that M. de Forville might send some one to the convent, under pretext of seeing me, with a message from my home; but I left it with him to contrive a way of conveying a letter to us. These letters ready, the old difficulty of getting them to my country-people still remained. It was impossible to enter into any communication with them from the garden, because of the Perpetual Adoration. I fell back upon an old accomplishment which had slipped into disuse. I have three brothers, who took upon themselves my early education; and, among other boyish acquirements, had made me an adept at flinging missiles at a mark. My sole chance lay in casting my letters from my attic window into the garden of the English.

Take the trouble to think of my difficulties. My window was high certainly, and gave me so much vantage; but before me lay the street, the nuns' garden, and beyond that the one my aim must reach. They were all narrow places, so that the distance was not absolutely great, but there was the terrible chance of missing my throw, and of our letters falling into either of the two nearer inclosures. Every day I picked up stones stealthily in the garden, and every evening during vespers I practiced flinging them from my window. The priest's melon-frames were broken, and a sister narrowly escaped being struck by a pebble; but a watch was set for mischievous lads in the street, and no suspicion fell upon me. I resolved that as soon as I had thrown twelve stones, without missing, into the English garden, I would risk my precious packet to my skill. It was done at last. Twelve largish stones had descended into the right patch of ground; and, with hands trembling with excitement, I wrapped my packet in a per, upon which I had written, "One of your country-women implores you earnestly to post this letter." My hands trembled, I said. But that would never do. I am not ashamed to own that I covered my face with them, and prayed God to give me strength and steady nerves, to take a right aim; and then standing perfectly still for a few seconds, to make sure that I trembled no longer, I whirled my weighted packet out of my hand.

The short time it takes for a stone to skim through the air seemed several minutes to me. I felt persuaded it would fall into the priests' garden, and all the dire consequences rose vividly before me. But I saw my missile just clear the farthest wall, and drop into its right place; and I sat down on the floor, crying hysterically, partly from thankfulness, and partly from reaction. I felt certain all would be right now; but I did not cry the less for that.

Well, about fifteen days after that, a message came to me that a friend was waiting to see me at the grille. My heart throbbed quickly as I went. Was it really one of my people, weary to see my face, and unsatisfied by the formal and scanty letters I was compelled to write? Or was it a confederate of M. de Forville? Sister Catherine fainted dead away when she heard the message, and I left the school in commotion, though happily no connection was perceived between the cause and effect. I found the Superieure in bland conversation with my visitor when I entered. It was a lady, a stranger, who explained to us that she had met Monsieur mon pere, at Paris, and having mentioned that she should be passing through this town, he had asked her to do him the inestimable favor of seeing me with her own eyes, and assuring herself of my health and happiness. There could be no doubt of either, she added, with a polite compliment to Madame, and she had another commission to fulfil. Monsieur mon pere had intrusted to her two Easter eggs—one for Madame and the other for me—and with a smile of the sweetest blandness she put both into the Superieure's hands. There were small enameled and painted boxes, of the shape and size of an egg. Madame's contained a bank note for 200 francs; and mine simply a chocolate bon-bon. It was impossible to suspect anything, for I was not yet a suspected person.

The chocolate egg contained a most ardent letter from Pierre, imploring Catherine to free herself from her yoke at the end of her next five years. I learned then, for the first time, that in France the convent vows are only legally binding for five years, and must be renewed at each expiration of that period. At the close of the next October Catherine would have been ten years a nun, and she might assert her right to be free. All my care and half my sympathy vanished, for nothing could be plainer or easier than the course lying before her.

But sister Catherine was troubled with a tender, or, as I think, a weak conscience. To my great disgust, she positively wished to betray the whole to her confessor. I made her comprehend with some trouble that I should be forthwith turned out of the convent, and she would be left to fight her battle alone. She kept silence, but her conduct was so odd that suspicions were aroused, and she was placed under strict surveillance. I had no opportunity of conversing with her, and I was in great doubt of her strength of mind to effect her own deliverance. She suffered the pangs of martyrdom during those last few months, from the Superieure, the confessor and her own conscience. Each day I saw her grow paler and more wretched looking, and the last trace of beauty left her wan face. Other doubts respecting Pierre began to haunt me.

October came, and my friend the Vice-Consul paid me his monthly visit. I told him and the Superieure that I wished to leave the convent on the 28th. I saw her color change, and her keen eyes fasten upon me as if she would read to the bottom of my heart. It was the day upon which Sister Catherine would either renew her vows or demand her freedom; for though she should have made her profession at the Fete of St. Catherine, early in December, her precarious health at the time she took the vail had hurried on the ceremony. Madame had strong suspicions of both of us, and during the next fortnight poor Catherine led an awful life. Every threat possible, of this life and the life to come, were hurled against her; but to my surprise, she remained firm. I only knew it, however, by the mute, sad langauge of her eyes, whenever they had a chance of meeting mine; they spoke of a constancy worthy of Pierre.

The morning came upon which I must quit the convent, and I had not been able to see or communicate with Catherine. Early in the day I was summoned to the Superieur's presence, and she bade me farewell with the most chilling frigidity, tell me I must go at once. I begged to stay till nearer evening, but she answered sternly, "No." My box was already gone down to a hotel quay, so I had no excuse for lingering. I was turned out at the convent door, like a servant discharged for dishonesty, and I heard its strong lock turned between me and Catherine. I felt perfectly bewildered.

After a while my common sense, and my habit of managing for myself under perplexing circumstances served me in good stead. I went to the Vice-Consul for the small residue of my money, but I told him nothing, for I knew he would be afraid of meddling in such a matter. From his office I went to the hotel, where I arranged for leaving my luggage for a short time; first making up a bundle of clothes, which Catherine would want if she came out of the convent. Then I hired the sole conveyance I could procure, a sort of covered cart, with no door at the back, but a seat behind the driver to which we had to climb over as well as we could. This char-a-banc I hired for the day, and bidding the driver to go as far as the corner of the convent street, I told him to wait there: resolving to keep the convent doors in view until six o'clock after which they never opened on any account.

It was one of the most wearisome and anxious days I ever passed. Even the polite French were curious, and showered questions upon the driver of the char-a-banc, to which he generally replied, "It is an Englishwoman," with a grimace more eloquent than words. There were two entrances to the convent—one for ordinary use, the other an arched, thick, black door, opened only on great occasions, as they were situated on different sides of the building. I was obliged to pace too and fro, to keep watch upon both. But at evening, near six o'clock, I saw the back door of ceremony opened narrowly, and a poor creature thrust out into the profane and unsheltered streets, as if against her will, for she made a faint gesture of seeking readmission, and then cowered down against the closed portals, as if she were some poor dove flung out of her nest. I ran to her, for it was Sister Catherine.

With great trouble I lifted her, more dead than alive into the back of my cart, and bade the driver take us to a village about seven miles distant, which I knew only as being the residence of one of our boarders, for I felt that it would be foolish and cruel to keep Sister Catherine in this town, where her story would soon ooze out in some way or another. I had posted a letter to Pierre in a letter-box near the convent, imploring him to come to us immediately at this village. I shall never forget that ride. The conveyance either had no springs or broken ones; and the seat in back was so high, that only our toes could reach the floor. Added to this the roads were rough, and up and down hill, and the horse had an uneasy tread. Catherine, who had had no carriage exercise for sixteen years, was restored to her senses and distracted from her terrors by the unusual motion.

The char-a-banc conveyed us to the village auberge, and I took a room there for the night, which had already closed in. My nun was as helpless and frightened as a child, and obeyed me like one. As soon as we were fairly alone in our chamber, she fell upon her knees, and began telling her beads, or rather would have done so, had not her rosary been taken away from her, with her other insignia of sisterhood; upon the remembrance of which she fell into a profound swoon, and after recovering from it spent the rest of the night in speechless tears. I did not feel happy myself. I reflected that my friends did not know where I was, and I might fall ill and die, and be forever lost to them. I was almost as frightened as Sister Catherine herself at this thought. But I did not fall ill. I fell asleep instead, and awoke refreshed, with more vigor for action, and a renewal of sympathy for my nun, who had tried my patience a little the evening before.

The next day passed in altering one of my dresses to fit Catherine, and in reading over and over Pierce's ardent letter, which she had seen but once, as I had kept it for safety in my possession while we were in the convent. She grew more reconciled to herself, and was content to say her prayers without a rosary. Our room was very quiet, overlooking an orchard, where pyramids of apples were piled under the trees, and perfumed the Autumn air with their scent.—There was nothing to scare or startle her; and to-morrow Pierre might come! The day passed well; but during the second afternoon the landlady made her appearance, and intimated that we must leave, with an air of decision which gave me clearly to understand that she meant to turn us out.

"Why?" I inquired.

She would not say why, only we must go, and go at once. It did not occur to me that I should have any trouble in finding another lodging, and I bade her leave us alone while we prepared for our departure. Catherine's dress was finished, and I had bought her a dark-colored hood at the village shop. She put them on, and appeared as a man, meagre, worried woman, in poor circumstances, who had had all grace and dignity trodden out of her. Again some very poignant doubts of M. de Forville's satisfaction crossed me, and I wished heartily that he would come, or that we were both back in the convent. Yet I was really fond of Catherine, and very sorry for her.

We went to nearly every house in that village, and were refused shelter in each; but after I had caught a glimpse of the convent priest I was no longer mystified. We must make the best of our way, while the daylight lasted, to some other village, and get a place of refuge for one night before we were hunted on again on the morrow. I said nothing to Catherine but I took the broad road leading from the village, and shook off the dust from my feet as I left it. It was getting near sunset, and all the afternoon the sky had been gathering stormy-looking clouds, torn at the edges, as if some strong upper current of wind was rending them into fringes. I talked to Catherine gayly, for at every utter extremity my spirits rose into almost boisterous buoyancy; and I was brought up so close to the unknown future now that I could not guess where we should be, or what we might be doing in another hour. On and on we walked briskly; Catherine glad to fly from the inhospitable village, and I anxious to reach another before nightfall. The road was very solitary, with but few passengers, as most French country roads are, to inquire where it would lead us, lest immediate persecution should track our steps. We came to no village; and the few farmsteads we passed, while it was light enough to see them, looked too dirty and miserable to invite us to seek shelter there. We went on in the hope of finding something better, until the dusk darkened rather quickly into night, from the thickness of the clouds which overspread the sky.

I did not know how far or how long we had walked, but I felt extreme fatigue overtaking me. I could no longer see Catherine's face, nor had she spoken for some time, and I dared not ask her how she felt. The wind began too whirl past us in sudden gusts, and howl dismally among the trees which crowded the hedgerows, and made our path darker. There was a vague, ominous roar, of a ghostly tone, somewhere in the black distance; whether of wind or sea I could not tell. We strayed some how or other out of our road, and lost ourselves in a thick wood, which might prove to be one of those old forests of indefinite extent, where wolves find a lair, which still exist in France. Suddenly, without an instant's warning, a torrent of rain fell, pattering upon the Autumn leaves with a multitudinous sound, and the sky grew blacker every minute, though we could still distinguish the ebony trunks and branches of the trees, inclosing us as in a net on every hand; and we could just make out in a small hallow of an old trank, a tiny white image of the Virgin in a bower of artificial white roses. Catherine sank down on the mass of white leaves before it, and began to pray, while I stood by listening to the howling of the fitful wind, and the deep constant roar of the sea, if it was the sea, and shivering under the pelting rain-drops. There reached us at last the faint note of a bell tinkling far away.

"I am going to die," said Catherine, solmenly; "I hear the bell of the convent I have forsaken. It is the sign of approaching death. O, holy Mary, holy St. Catherine, have pity upon us!"

"Don't be foolish," I said, rather crossly, "it cannot be the convent bell."

"I have heard it for sixteen years," she answered, "and I should know it among a thousand. I am going to die in this dreadful place."

"But why should I hear it, if it is you who are going to die?" I asked. "Come, let us make another effort to find our way out of this wood."

Nerved to despair, Catherine dragged herself up, and I drew her arm within mine. We found a path which soon brought us to the end of the coppice and into a lane, along which we pressed eagerly. I was resolved to insist upon being received into the first house we came to, and before long a line of light, glimmering through some persiennes, shone upon us. I groped at the gate for a bell-handle, and rang such a peal upon it as the inmates had not heard for a long time. The window was quietly opened, but not the persiennes, and a voice from behind them said in English, "Who is there?"

I never was so near fainting in my life. It seemed as if some angel from Heaven was speaking a celestial language, and I had scarcely courage to answer. When I did, I do not know what I said, but there was a run down stairs, and a rapid unfastening of the door, and a hospitable rush to the gate. It was still raining heavily, but in a minute we were standing within doors, and two elderly English ladies were gazing, in unmitigated amazement, upon our bedraggled and miserable aspect. I glanced at Catherine's abject appearance, and feeling myself safe from the perils of the night, I burst into a fit of almost hysterical laughter, in which the two ladies soon joined.

They told us the next day that they had inhabited France during some years, dwelling in this little villa, just outside the town where our convent was. Catherine and I had returned by the very nearest route to the place from which we were flying, and it was indeed the convent bell we had heard in the wood. We learned that our story was known, to the great mortification of the Superieure, and was then the topic of the day in the little town. But as we did not wish to be seen, and the ladies were anxious not to embroil themselves with the priestly power, we remained secreted in their house for some time, after despatching a second letter to M. de Forville.

But just realize, if you can, my anxiety, when day after day passed by and no faithful Pierre arrived! I began to be gravely troubled, for what could I do with a renegade nun on my hands? As the slow days of waiting consumed themselves, her conscience, like most consciences in time of distress, grew outrageously sensitive, and she tormented herself and me without ceasing. I thought of my father and mother, and wondered what they would think if I had to carry sister Catherine back with me to our English home. I went so far as a cowardly wish that I had never meddled with the loves of Pierre and Hortense de Forville, and my brain grew almost fevered with wondering why he did not come.

But all's well that ends well. Pierre never received my first letter—posted in the letter-box near the convent—and our second, and a third, which we wrote in our impatience, were sent after him to Rome; and, hearing from us, he started off instantly to come. He had concluded that Catherine's profession had been made at the Fete of St. Catherine, in December, and he had intended to be down in the town then, waiting to receive her if she quitted the convent. But all was right now he had come.

I saw him first. He was no longer a "beau cousin," but a sunburnt, travel-worn man, nearly forty, whose hair was tinged with gray, and his forehead wrinkled, much with trouble as with years. He looked like a rock against which many a rough billow and fretting wave had broken. But I liked him very much, and very gently I tried to prepare him for the change sixteen years had made in his cousin.

"She is always my Hortense!" said M. de Forville.

Hearing that, I led him at once to the room where she was waiting for him. But don't tell me that he did not feel a great shock when his eyes first fell upon her, for he turned to me with a look of almost agonized interrogation. We had done our best in making a becoming dress for her, but still she looked a subdued, faded, gentle old maid, in the place of the bright girl of fifteen, half child and half coquette, whom he had last seen. The shock was not so great on her side, though she trembled and hesitated, and greeted him with the graceful courtesy that French women seem born to make. There was something very strange and sad in this meeting; something of pathos which I had not thought of beforehand, and I ran out of the room to hide my tears, leaving the lovers alone with one another.

I thought M. de Forville very quiet, and almost low spirited during the evening, but Catherine every hour grew visibly younger before our eyes. "Iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend," says the Bible. How much more, then, does a man sharpen the countenance of a woman? It was droll to watch the convent frost thawing, and the innocent coquetries of the woman budding out—nay, bursting into full bloom—in sister Catherine. Her eyes sparkled, a delicate color suffused her face, and her voice took a gayer and more musical tone. At last she laughed—a sweet, ringing, girlish laugh, as free from care as a child's—and Pierre started as if his ear had caught some magical tone. This was a creature more like his lost Hortense; that laugh had lived in his memory these sixteen years. He bent down his head, and laid his lips reverently and tenderly upon her hand.

We left the town the next day, and, to appease Catherine's troublesome conscience, we traveled direct to Rome, where M. de Forville had already done what money and influence could do to obtain for her the Holy Father's dispensation from her vows, which she declared to be essential to her happiness. The whole case was so plainly one of fraud that the kindly old Pope absolved sister Catherine without difficulty, and gave her, as a wedding gift, a rosary blessed by himself, in place of the one she had forfeited in the convent. We journeyed back to Paris, where they were married as privately as possible, to avoid causing any greater scandal than was inevitable. Since then Madame de Forville has plunged into the gayeties of the gayest cities in the world, and has bids fair so become one of the leaders of fashion. There is but one hope for her. After I have been home to visit my friends, I am to return, to accompany them on a long foreign tour, which is M. de Forville's passion. Both of them declare that I am as dear to them as a sister.

My sole regret is that the Pope did not insist upon his beloved daughter, Madame la Superieure, refunding sister Catherine's dowry of seven thousand pounds.

☞It is quite as often that mistakes occur of persons who suppose it is their duty to become clergymen as of those who fancy that they have the right talent to becom physicians. The one thinks he has a call to preach; the other to practice. Experienced "hands" often see the lamentable error about to be committed by zealous aspirants in both professions. A case in point occurred not long since in the northeastern part of Illinois. At a Conference of Methodist ministers Brother S—, who was not noted for brilliancy of diction, related his experience, speaking, among other things, of his call to preach, and his reluctance to obey the Divine inspiration, until it seem to him that he must either preach or suffer eternal punishment. Elder T——, a very pious man and eloquent preacher, but somewhat given to jocularity, said to Brother S——, after meeting: "Yours, my dear brother, seems to me to be a very hard case—very hard, indeed; for it is very certain that you will never be able to preach!"

Old Age without Religion.

Alas! for him who grows old without growing wise, and to whom the future world does not set open her gates, when he is excluded by the present. The Lord deals so graciously with us in the decline of life, that it is a shame to turn a deaf ear to the lessons which he gives. The eye becomes dim, the tongue falters, the feet totter, all the senses refuse to do their office, and from every side resounds the call, "Set thine house in order, for the term of thy pilgrimage is at hand." The playmates of youth, the fellow-laborers of manhood, die away, and take the road before us. Old age is like some quiet chamber, in which, disconnected from the visible world, we can prepare in silence for the world that is unseen.

☞It is said of the celebrated joker, Lord Newbury, that he would at any time rather lose a friend than a joke. On one occasion he began the utterance of the sentence of death in this wise: "Prisoner at the bar, you have been found guilty by a jury of your own countrymen of the crime laid to your charge; and I must say I entirely agree with the verdict; for I see 'scoundrel' written in your face." Here the prisoner interrupted with: "That's a strong reflection—from your Lordship?" Whereupon the Judge, keenly appreciating the joke, commuted the sentence into transportation for seven years.

☞Never indulge in what appears to be a little sin; it will harden the heart and lead to greater.

☞When a robber takes life and money it may be called a *purse-an-'all* attack.

☞Ancient and modern Greece—Whale Oil and Petroleum.

☞All authority flows from reason, and ought to lose its force in proportion as it deviates from its source.

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C. F. BRACKETT, M. D., Sec'y.
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